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[ONE PENNY.]

UNPROFITABLE INTERCOURSE.

THERE is a very unhappy stain upon the history of European intercourse with the Western Coast of Africa. The whole of our relations in that quarter have been from almost immemorial time collateral with a series of tragedies, barbarities, and misfortunes, in which it is difficult to say whether the traders of the ocean, or the pagans of the continent, have suffered most miserably. The last incident, however, has resulted in the capture of Bishop Crowther, of Sierra Leone, and the killing of the British vice-consul for the Niger district. The story is a sad one, but it may be reduced to an affair of four or five sentences. We, of England, suppose ourselves to have a mission upon that wretched and dreary shore. We have been interfering to save the lives of the subjects of those brutal petty chiefs, who are, by a sort of ignorant courtesy, styled kings in their latitudes. We have a bishop at Sierra Leone, with African blood in his veins; and this gentleman early in October last, was arrested by the governor of a dismal town, called Ida, among the desolate estuaries and swamps of that hideous, worthless and hopeless region. Our vice-consul, in obtaining his rescue, has fallen a victim, and it is too late to blame or praise him for his courageous, if incautious, intervention. The point best worth consideration is, no doubt, what are our interests in the great blank of the Niger Valley, where no missionary of English origin can live, whence our political agents absent themselves whenever they possibly can, where our episcopate has been given, in sheer necessity caused by the climate, to a negro, and where the Nigritian race regard their black bishop as rather a subject of extortion than a personage to be venerated. We can say little against, or in favour of, this adopted son of the Church. He may be, for all we know, an excellent pastor; but it is perfectly clear that he possesses no influence, has been, since his appointment, a living bone of contention, and has rendered no service whatever to civilisation on the Western Coast of Africa. Nor is it to be imputed to him as a fault. Nowhere is a man less a prophet than in his own country. The negro despises the negro, and hates him all the more, when, through some accident, he happens to have been promoted above the level of the jungle and the morass, the native meeting-house, and the foul rituals of the forest. This, be it noted, was Bishop Crowther's first visitation of a diocese, the boundaries of which no gazetteer would pretend to define. Apparently, it includes the realm of a potentate whom the traffickers of the region speak of as a king, and denominate as Archibong, who is a common savage, with a



THE RIGHT HON. LORD STANLEY.

villanous propensity for bloodshed, and not the faintest historical or dynastic claim to the rank he has assumed. The question is, what have we to do with this butcherly little tyrant or his compeers? Great Britain has a consular establishment "at the confluence of the Niger," which may either mean a diplomatic outpost to guard our local trade, or a random authority, branching north and south, east and west, up the river, among the islands, and through a wilderness of perpetually shifting states, where "British influence" is supposed to be valuable. Well, our bishop was seized by one of the nameless and paltry despots of this terrible coast, where European enterprise is one incessant sacrifice: he was kept for ten days in a cruel captivity; we have a vice-consul down at the mouth of the many-armed stream; he went up with a

vessel, refused the ransom demanded, was attacked and slain, did not release the captive, who contrived by a stratagem to release himself, and left only a melancholy account of slaughtered savages to tell the tale of our "influence" on the banks of the Niger. When, however, shall we learn to estimate more accurately our position relatively to the ever-fluctuating Government and capricious populations of these mis-called states? It was, at the beginning, a false and foolish step to nominate a black bishop, either for Sierra Leone or for the Niger. No negro would carry with him any weight or character in that part of the globe. Nor does any European consul. The barbarians who shot Mr. Fall to death with arrows, were not one whit an improvement upon the islanders who speared Captain Cook. It is, of course, in a noble spirit, that a man, no matter of what colour, risks his life in order, as he trusts, to carry a gospel among the benighted; and it was, indubitably, a generous English impulse which prompted our vice-consul to refuse the ransom and attempt the rescue. But what have been the statistics of European mortality, incurred through such ventures upon that morbid and fatal fringe of an unconquerable continent? We have not become very much more practical, it is to be feared, since the sentimental epoch in which Mr. Wilberforce described Sierra Leone as "the morning star beaming on the breast of Africa." Sierra Leone, the charnel-house of Europeans, and the haunt of incorrigible kidnappers, where we have expended, from first to last, not less than ten millions sterling, without attaining a single one of our proposed objects; where a resident white bishop is a physical impossibility; where the slave traffic to this hour is rampant, and where our commerce is, after all, next to a nullity. The problem arises—must we

abandon this task, which we have set for ourselves in the spirit of sympathy with all that is best in human civilisation? The answer seems to come, in the plainest possible language, from the plainest possible facts. We ought not to make Africa a sentiment. We ought not to propitiate its barbarians, as it were, by continual human sacrifices. We ought no more to regard it as indispensable than we ought to regard the Arctic zone or the frozen heights of the Himalayas. And we ought, by all means, to acknowledge the significance of the circumstances attesting to us, from time to time, how insignificant is our influence upon that coast, when there is a practical object to be attained, and how weak is our hold upon the savage chiefs, with its great costs and its many sacrifices, in the sepulchral Valley of the Niger.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

IN the House of Lords, Earl Russell moved the series of resolutions, of which he had given notice, on the subject of public education, and which contained the following propositions:—That the education of the working classes in England and Wales ought to be extended and improved; that every child has a moral right to the blessings of education, and that it is the duty of the State to guard and maintain that right; that the diffusion of knowledge ought not to be hindered by religious differences, nor should the early employment of the young in labour be allowed to deprive them of education; that Parliament and Government should aid in the education of the middle classes by providing for the better administration of charitable endowments; that Oxford and Cambridge might be made more useful to the nation by the removal of restrictions, and the appointment of a commission to consider of the better administration of their large revenues for purposes of instruction, and that the appointment of a minister of education with a seat in the Cabinet would be conducive to the public benefit. In submitting these resolutions to the House, which he did in a speech of considerable length, the noble earl disclaimed any intention of interfering with the privileges peculiarly belonging to the House of Commons in connection with the question of public instruction, and confessed that he was unprepared with any definite plan for carrying out his object, and wished to do no more than to indicate certain general principles.—The Duke of Marlborough felt much difficulty in replying to the speech of the noble earl, owing to the absence of any definite and distinct propositions with which he could deal. If the resolutions were a challenge thrown out to the Government, with the view of ascertaining what they intended to do on the question of education, then the moment selected by the noble earl for the purpose was certainly most inopportune; because Parliament had been called together with a totally different object, and there was no time in the present Session for dealing with the matter. Not being able to give his assent to the whole of the resolutions, therefore the noble duke moved the "previous question," which, after a few words from Lord Russell, was agreed to.—Their lordships adjourned at a quarter past seven o'clock.

In the House of Lords, the Earl of Derby announced that it was desirable that both Houses should, if possible, adjourn over the recess on Saturday.—The Sales of Reversions Bill and the Metropolitan Streets Act (1867) Amendment Bill were read a second time.—Lord Dufferin, in moving for copies of the police reports relative to the late Fenian processions in Ireland, alluded in strongly condemnatory terms to the conduct of a portion of the public press in representing Allen and his companions in guilt as political martyrs, and urged the Government to administer the Party Processions Act throughout Ireland with firmness and impartiality, and without regard to either religious or political opinions.—The Earl of Derby observed that the Government had never hesitated to enforce the law with impartiality, and he deeply regretted that any portion of the press should have treated the late executions at Manchester as dictated by political considerations. The offence for which Allen and his fellow convicts had suffered was not a political one, but wilful murder; and it was without any vindictive feeling that the Government came to the conclusion that it was their imperative duty, after the leniency they had shown last year, and which had been so abused, to let the law take its course.—The motion was then withdrawn; and the Totnes, &c., Writs Bill having been brought up from the Commons and read a first time, their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

IN the House of Commons on Saturday, the Metropolitan Streets Act (1867) Amendment Bill was read a third time and passed; and the East London Museum Site Bill re-committed, and the standing orders having been suspended, read a third time and passed.—The Income-tax Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday.—Mr. Griffith pronounced the Abyssinian war a "political luxury," and protesting against any increase of the income-tax on the lower middle classes, gave notice that on going into committee he should move to exempt from the operation of the additional tax all persons whose incomes did not exceed £200 a year.—Mr. W. Hunt appealed to the hon. gentleman to reconsider his determination. The suggestion made would have been worthy of consideration had this been the original bill imposing the tax for the year, but being only a supplementary measure, the House could not be fairly asked to make a special exemption in favour of any class of persons to whom the original Act might apply.—The Consolidated Fund (£2,000,000) Bill was read a second time.—The Sale of Reversions Bill was considered as amended, and passed through its remaining stages; and after sitting a half an hour the House adjourned.

In the House of Commons, Sir H. Barron asked whether the Foreign Secretary had consented to have England represented at the proposed Conference on Italian Affairs, and on what terms.—Lord Stanley replied that he had announced on the first day of the Session the nature and purport of the answer which, on behalf of the Government, he had given to the French Government in reply to their invitation to attend the Conference. To that answer he adhered, and he had not qualified it in any respect.—Mr. Vance having put some questions relating to the recent destruction of the Bubulina in the Mersey, and the object with which she had been fitted out and armed by the Greek Government, Lord Stanley said that that and another vessel had been bought and fitted out for the Government of Greece, which that Government, being at peace with all nations, had a perfect right to do in English ports or elsewhere. They were the best judges of what amount of naval force they required to protect their trade and commerce, and with their discretion in that respect the British Government did not wish to interfere, although, no doubt, if they were aware that the Greek Government contemplated going to war with an ally of this country Her Majesty's Government would remonstrate, and endeavour to prevent their fitting out armed vessels in English ports.—The Income-tax Bill, and the Consolidated Fund (£2,000,000) Bill, were passed through Committee.—The Attorney-General obtained leave to bring in a bill to regulate the issue of writs for the election of members of Parliament in certain cases. The effect of the measure is to suspend the issue of writs in the cases of Totnes, Great Yarmouth, Reigate, and Lancaster, in the event of a vacancy arising in the representation of any of these boroughs.—The House adjourned at twenty minutes to six o'clock.

In the House of Commons, the Lord Advocate took the oath and his seat for the borough of Thetford, in the room of Mr. A. H. Baring, resigned.—Sir J. Pakington, at the invitation of Mr. O'Beirne, explained at some length the nature of the experiments made with the Malta and Gibraltar shields, and denying that they had been conducted in private, supported his assertion by reference to the fact that full reports had been published in the *Standard* and *Herald* at the time.—Mr. Gilpin having asked whether the Government intended to introduce a measure this Session for the abolition of church rates, was informed by Mr. Secretary Hardy that they did not.—Lord Stanley said that on Saturday (to-day) the adjournment of the House would be moved till the 13th of February.—The Income-tax Bill and the Consolidated Fund (£2,000,000) Bill were read a third time and passed.—The Totnes, &c., Writs Bill was read a second time, and the standing orders having been suspended, the bill passed through its remaining stages.

The *Gazette* announces the appointment of Mr. James Paterson, barrister-at-law, as one of the Special Commissioners, for Irish Fisheries.

COURT AND SOCIETY.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint the Rev. S. W. Lloyd, assistant minister of Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley-street, to the incumbency of St. Thomas's, Portman-square.

The Head Mastership of Haileybury College is vacant. The salary is £1,500 a year; the appointment being in the gift of the council.

We regret to hear that Sir Francis Goldsmid, the senior member of Parliament for Reading, is still suffering from the effects of the kick from a horse which he received some time ago. An abscess has formed, which renders his recovery much slower than was at first anticipated.

A FINE specimen of the Saxon ring worn by the higher classes during the Heptarchy, was discovered the other day on the farm of Mr. T. Hornby, of Cattleholmes, near Driffield. It weighs an ounce and a quarter, and contains gold equal to five sovereigns. It is supposed to be at least 1,200 years old.

MR. F. B. CHATTERTON, lessee of Drury Lane Theatre, gave a morning performance on Wednesday for the benefit of Mr. Fitzjames, the well-known actor, who is totally incapacitated from following his profession, owing to a severe attack of paralysis in May last. Several celebrities volunteered their services, and the audience was highly gratified with the entertainment, which was excellent.

A SCHOLARSHIP of £50 a year, for three years (being the first yet awarded by the Royal School of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, South Kensington, has been gained upon examination by Mr. I. F. Cairns, of Chatham. The school now numbers 41 students, 24 of whom are sent by the Lords of the Admiralty. The fourth session has thus opened with 17 ordinary students, the number in the first session being 4, in the second 13, and in the third session 14.

THE official declaration at the South Leicestershire election confirmed the statement that Mr. Paget, the Liberal candidate, was elected, but reduced the majority claimed by his committee to 39—a very narrow margin in so large a constituency, and that a county. It is alleged that the registration had not been attended to with any degree of efficiency by the Conservative party for a long time; a supposition arising, probably, from the fact that there had been no contest for years. The Conservatives, however, gain an advantage at Thetford, the Lord Advocate of Scotland being returned in the place of the Hon. A. H. Baring, whose allegiance to the present Government was not altogether certain.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS Prince Minhouthaiyon, brother of the Teyoon, having been invited by Her Majesty's Government to visit this country, arrived at Dover about one o'clock on Monday, and was received with the usual military honours paid to a Royal personage. Suitable arrangements were made for his reception at Claridge's Hotel, where he will reside during his stay in the metropolis. His suite consists of his Excellency Monkyama Haiato-no Kami, Minister Plenipotentiary of his Majesty the Teyoon, and of other Japanese officers of high rank. He is accompanied by Mr. Von Siebold, one of the interpreters of Her Majesty's mission in Japan; and Major Edwards, of the Royal Engineers, has been appointed to attend on his Royal Highness, and to make arrangements for his movements.

MR. MERVYN PROWER, the undergraduate of Brasenose College, Oxford, whose death we noticed, was the eldest son of Major Prower, of Purton House, near Swindon. The cause of his death was a violent blow on the head, received in the disturbances at Oxford on the 9th ult. It seems the deceased was struck unawares in a most cowardly manner by some ruffian, and when down he was violently kicked. Shortly after the occurrence he became insensible, and remained so, with the exception of a few minutes on the 22nd ult., till his decease. Mr. Prower entered at Brasenose College in October Term, 1866, and was universally respected, not only by his fellow-undergraduates, but by all who were acquainted with him. His father, mother, brother, and sister were with him at the time of his death, which has caused a very painful feeling both in the university and city.

It was only last week that the sudden death of the Archdeacon of Chester, who was seized with apoplexy while presiding at a public meeting took place. A similarly awful visitation occurred on Friday night at Bath. The newly-elected Mayor, Mr. Francis Slack, took the chair at a large assembly in the Guildhall, congregated to listen to the "penny readings," which have been remarkably successful in that city. The Mayor suddenly fainted; three medical men who were present rushed to his assistance, but without avail, as on raising him up he was found to be dead. He was laid out in the adjoining Council Chamber, and the sight of one so well known, and who but a few minutes before had addressed his "fellow-citizens," thus lying lifeless with the robes of office yet about him, created a profound and painful sensation.

THE birthday of the Princess of Wales was celebrated on Monday, at Sandringham, with the usual festivities, but a very severe gale of wind blowing from the north detracted considerably from the out-door enjoyments of the day. So high and strong was the wind that several large trees in the Dersingham Avenue, near the Norwich gates, have been blown down. The school children belonging to Sandringham and Babingley went to the hall, and sang a birthday hymn. The Mayor of King's Lynn, Mr. W. Moyle, with the Rev. T. White, head master of the King's Lynn Grammar School, and by Mr. Alfred Flaxman, a pupil of this school, had an interview with the Princess of Wales, when his Royal Highness graciously presented Mr. Flaxman with a gold medal for proficiency in classics. His Royal Highness annually presents a gold medal of the value of 25 guineas, for competition amongst the pupils of this school, and it has been Mr. Flaxman's good fortune to win this valuable prize two years in succession. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, with the Duke of Cambridge, paid a visit to the model farm. The Princess was unable to take her usual drive through the severity of the weather. The children of the schools of Sandringham, Babingley, West Newton with Appleton, Wolferton, and Dersingham, marched in the afternoon of Monday to the dining room of the Royal mews, accompanied by the several clergymen of the Royal parishes, and their Royal Highnesses were expected to be present during the feast. On the heights a huge bonfire, about 20 feet high, and composed of twelve waggon loads of faggots and four barrels of tar, was provided, under the management of Mr. Carmichael. The bells of the fine old tower of St. Margaret's, at the neighbouring town of King's Lynn, rang a merry peal in honour of the Royal birthday.

NEW FOOD.—The long-talked-of introduction of the flesh of the Eland antelope into the English food market will shortly become a *fait accompli*. Lord Hill, who has devoted so much trouble and money to the breeding of this animal in his park at Hawkestone, has fattened a fine male, and proposes to exhibit it as extra stock at the approaching show of the Smithfield Club at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. At the close of the show it will be sold, and will no doubt excite a lively competition amongst the chief "purveyors" of meat of the metropolis. As the Zoological Society sell their surplus stock of Elands at £150 per pair, the price for the table will probably be somewhat high.

THE LATE GALE.—The gale of last Sunday will be felt even in the Sandwich Islands. The ship *Lydia Williams*, from Liverpool to San Francisco, was driven ashore on Salt Island, near Holyhead, and became a total wreck. The Holyhead lifeboat saved her crew and passengers, twenty-six in number, but could not save forty magnificent sheep of the celebrated Rambouillet breed which the Emperor of the French was sending as a present to the King of the Sandwich Islands.

HOME AND DOMESTIC.

ROMFORD Market was opened on Wednesday for the sale of sorts of live stock, by special authority.

LATE on Friday evening the police apprehended a suspected person who arrived at the London-road Railway Station, Manchester, with 45 revolvers packed in two carpenter's tool baskets.

WOOL quotations continue about the same as last week. There is a very light demand, owing to spinners finding no market for their yarns. The German trade for yarn continues very inactive, being in its turn re-acted upon unfavourably by the American market for the manufactured article. With the exception of damasks the piece department is still sluggish.

THE *Artaxerxes*, of Exeter, arrived in the Tyne on Friday with the master and one man, the survivors of the crew of the *Victor*, of Faversham, on board. The *Victor* left the Tyne on Monday, and on Tuesday morning she came into collision with the *Artaxerxes*, which struck the *Victor* on the port side, immediately abaft the main rigging. The collision was very violent, and the *Victor* began to sink. The master and a seaman, named Smith, jumped on board the *Artaxerxes*, but two men and a boy, who had been forward, went down with the vessel two or three minutes after the collision, and were drowned.

ON Saturday evening the Deal boatmen were made aware of a vessel being upon the Goodwin Sands. The *Walmer* 12-oared life-boat was soon launched, and proceeded in the direction of the distressed vessel. A Deal lugger, having heard the signals of distress, likewise proceeded to render all the assistance in its power. Both vessels got near to the distressed ship, but in consequence of the very boisterous weather they were unable to approach sufficiently near to rescue the crew. The life-boat made several attempts, but in vain, to rescue the crew, but eventually they saw the ill-fated vessel with its crew sink on the treacherous sands. The number of the crew is not known at present. When returning to the shore the *Walmer* was capsized twice. One of the crew was so exhausted that it was a long time before he could be resuscitated.

MR. RUPERT CLARKE, the coroner for Berke, has held an inquest at the Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum, Sandhurst, on the body of one of the convicts, named Samuel Robinson, 30 years of age. In the beginning of April, 1863, the deceased murdered a woman named Charlotte Haines, at Brompton, by striking her on the back of the head with an iron bar. He was arraigned the following month, but found insane, and on the 5th of March, 1865, he was received into the above establishment from Fisherton House Asylum. The deceased's health had been failing for a long time; he was extremely deaf, and had been in the infirmary ward since June, 1866. He died somewhat suddenly. A post-mortem examination was made, and it showed that death had arisen from perforation of the stomach. Verdict, "Death from natural causes."

IN Exeter, Barnstaple, Torquay, and other towns in the West of England, strenuous efforts have been made to bring down the price of butcher's meat, and for the most part they have proved successful. At Exeter on Saturday prime joints of beef were sold at 7d., and legs of mutton at 6d. per pound. The South Western Railway employees, the city police, and the men engaged at the principal works, clubbed together, and carcasses were cut up and sold from 4d. to 6d. per pound. The same was done at Devonport, Taunton, and elsewhere. This plan, persevered in, has at length brought the "knights of the cleaver" to their senses. A co-operative butchery is in course of formation at Torquay; it will require a capital of only £300. The prospectus states that meat of the very best quality will be supplied at 4d. to 6d. per pound, and that a fair remunerative profit for working expenses and interest on capital invested, will, it is expected, be yielded. In consequence of the co-operation by consumers in Newton Abbott, the butchers have lately had large quantities of meat left on hand. At Barnstaple a co-operative society has been started. Bread has been reduced to 8d. per quarter loaf.

AN extensive robbery of arms in Cork, attributed universally to Fenians, has given fresh support to the reputation for disaffection which that city has specially acquired. Mr. Richardson's, in Patrick-street, from which 120 revolvers and eight Snider rifles were carried off, is a respectable gunmaking establishment. On Thursday night it was closed as usual when business concluded, but next morning a back door was found open, and the examination of the premises which ensued showed that several chests of arms had been extracted. Suspicion naturally in such a case fastens first upon persons acquainted with the premises, but the police have as yet obtained no information likely to show how the shop was entered by the burglars, or whether the motives of the robbery were other than those of theft. Drillings near Cork and in a neighbouring county, which have been spoken of in a Cork and Tipperary journal, are not known by the police to have actually taken place, and at most there is only a suspicion that gatherings which occurred some ten days ago were of such a character. Searches for arms have been made in the county of Meath, and an Irish-American, Thomas Halpin, has been under surveillance there. He complains of the interference of the police with his privacy, and has produced a letter of exemption from the American militia, obtained in order to enable him to visit his native place. He says he is an harness maker by trade, and has an extensive store in Brooklyn, New York. James O'Donnell, who some time since acted as Fenian drill-master of the Cashel (county Tipperary) district, and has long been "wanted," has been arrested there. The guardians of the poor law union of Killarney solicit the Government to send troops to that town for the winter and spring, as was done last year, and offer accommodation for them in the workhouse.

THE Greek vessel, the *Bouboulina*, which was blown to pieces in the Mersey, was built of steel in 1864, by Messrs. Jones, Quiggin, and Co., of Liverpool, for Messrs. Fraser, Trenholme, and Co., her cost being about £50,000, no expense being spared in order to make her one of the fleetest and strongest steamers afloat. Her tonnage was 680, the full register being 1,132. She was 279 ft. long, 35 ft. broad, and 15 ft. deep. Her engines were made by Messrs. James Jack and Sons, of Liverpool, and were of 350 horsepower, and were designed on the most recent and approved principles. She made but one voyage to and from America, when her speed frequently averaged 16½ knots. At the close of the war the *Bouboulina* was laid up in dock for a long period, but she was recently sold by Messrs. C. W. Kellock and Co., shipbrokers, to the Greek Government, the local agents for whom—Messrs. Giannacopulo and Co., Greek Consuls—placed her in the hands of Messrs. G. R. Clover and Co., of Birkenhead, by whom she was put in thorough repair at an expense of upwards of £5,000. The *Bouboulina* had on board about 350 tons of Powell's Dufray steam coal, a large quantity of provisions and of Whitworth guns, gunpowder, and other warlike materials. The hull of the vessel was insured for about £20,000, and it is said that a large quantity of the cargo was also insured, some so recently as Thursday. The opinion of Mr. Elliott, the chief engineer of the vessel, who has escaped, is that the explosion was caused by gas generated in the coal bunkers, the coal on board (Welsh steam) being, it is said, peculiarly liable to spontaneous combustion. If the boilers had exploded they would, it is said, have blown upwards, and no explosion of a boiler on shipboard was ever known to break the keel, and that of the *Bouboulina* was much stronger than the average. If gunpowder had been the motive force, the vessel, it is argued, would have been blown into fragments, and not have been divided—as has been done—into two solid portions. Some reports place the killed at forty. The number rescued, however, as far as could be ascertained, did not exceed forty to fifty.

PROVINCIAL.

On Saturday morning, after the Barnsley mail-bag had been left at the Cudworth Station by the mail train, it was stolen during the temporary absence of the man charged with the care of it. The bag was afterwards found, cut open in a field, but it is supposed that very few of the contents have been abstracted, probably owing to the thieves being disturbed.

GAROTTING has begun in Dublin, a gentleman named Hancock having been pinioned from behind by three men in a populous neighbourhood at dusk, and robbed of his watch and a sum of money. He was able to make no resistance, and had his eye bruised by the violence with which he was suddenly seized by an unseen assailant.

WILLIAM RADCLIFFE, a butcher, of Crowcliffe, was summoned at Huddersfield on Thursday for torturing a gander. It appeared that the defendant and John Simeon, farmer, Storthes, wagered a sovereign as to the weight of their respective ganders. Before the birds were weighed, Radcliffe sent for two pounds of shot, and administered it to his gander. After the wager was decided, Simeon bought Radcliffe's gander for 11s., and it was taken to his farm, where it died on the Monday night following, and when opened two pounds of small shot were found in its gizzard. The magistrates fined the defendant 10s. and cost.

A MURDER, of a somewhat curious character, the object of which was evidently plunder, has taken place in Shropshire. A gentleman was out shooting, when his dog drew attention by its movements to a ditch where the soil had been disturbed, and where he found on examination part of a waistcoat, and a man's toes protruding. On turning the soil the body of a Polish hawk of jewellery was found, evidently murdered, and with the pockets cut, and the waistcoat rifled as if for some more private repository of coin. He was in the habit of carrying his stock in a box, which was missing. The last time he was seen alive was on the 15th of November. The post-mortem showed that death had arisen from a gunshot wound. No clue has been obtained to the murderer.

On Saturday morning, about ten o'clock, a telegram was received in Newport, giving intelligence of the fall of the timber-built viaduct on the Vale of Neath Railway, situated near to Glyn Neath. Telegrams announcing the fact were also received in Swansea, Cardiff, Neath, Merthyr, and other important places in the district. The news was received with much consternation, as on Saturdays passenger trains are usually more heavily freighted than on other days of the week. Later in the day, however, it was ascertained that the train was a mineral train, and that before the disaster both the locomotive and greater weight of the train had safely passed over that part of the viaduct, leaving several trucks and the guard's van on that portion of the structure which gave way as they were passing over it.

The boards of the South Eastern and Brighton Railway Companies have come to an agreement with the board of the London, Chatham, and Dover Company, which will bring the working of the three lines into one harmonious system. The new plan does not mix up the financial concerns of the respective companies, and provision is made for the difficulty of ascertaining in the present undeveloped state of the Chatham and Dover line the precise proportion of the earnings to which it may be entitled, by a condition that the question shall at the proper time be definitively adjusted through an arbitration with Sir William Erie, Mr. Gladstone or Sir George Grey as umpire.

The shocking murder of a woman at Moxley, in Staffordshire, continues to be wrapped up in mystery. The evidence taken at the resumed inquest on Saturday was chiefly directed to the terms on which deceased lived with her husband and her father-in-law, by whom she had occasionally been ill-treated. The two facts of the husband being at work at half-past one in the morning, and of her having been to the foundry and left his supper between nine and ten, were established beyond all doubt. It will be remembered that her murdered body was found in a spinney by the roadside about midway between her house and the foundry; and it is conjectured that the crime must have been committed on her way home. The post-mortem dispelled the idea of outrage which was at first entertained. The inquest was again adjourned.

That the dangers of coal mines are not confined to gaseous exhalations and combinations, such as fire-damp and choke-damp, is a fact exemplified by a sad accident which occurred at the close of last week in the workings of Cardenden, in Fifeshire. The colliers were busy at work, in ignorance of the fact that only a thin wall of coal separated them from an old waste filled with water. One of the men must have pierced this wall with his pick, and in a moment, without the slightest warning, the flood rushed in. Eight men were in the pit at the time, and four of them met with an instant death. The others being working in a higher level, were rescued before the water reached them. A larger number of men in an adjoining pit, to which the water also found a passage, made a narrow escape by another shaft. Only three of the bodies have been recovered.

On Friday, John Tod, farmer, Arrowthorne, appeared at Leyburn to answer a charge of ill-treating and torturing eight heifers, by cutting off their horns, on the 11th inst.—William Wake stated that on the day in question he was called upon by the defendant to assist him in fetching eighteen Irish heifers out of a field on the farm, and putting them into a fold. One of the animals was then tied firmly up by the defendant so that it could not stir about, and with an ordinary saw he cut away the horns close by the head. Blood flowed in considerable quantity during the operation, and the animal stamped and moaned very much. After seven of the heifers had been treated thus, Wake, becoming disgusted with the work, refused to help further. Tod continued his work, however, and did not desist till fourteen were denuded of their horns. Witnesses were called by the defendant to prove that cutting off horns in the manner he had done was not uncommon in Northumberland and the North. The magistrates inflicted a fine of 1s. and costs in each case—in all £7 2s.—with the alternative of 56 days' imprisonment. The fine was paid.

On Sunday afternoon another great Fenian demonstration took place in Manchester, as stated in the placards, in honour of the Irish martyrs, Allen, O'Brien, and Larkin. Throughout the morning, and, indeed, the day, the rain fell heavily and almost incessantly, but this had no apparent deterring effect upon the gathering of an immense crowd. The meeting place was in Stevenson-square, and by two there were at least 2,000 or 3,000 men, women, and children assembled, while every street running into the square was literally filled with young and old making their way thither. Respectably attired men and young women of eighteen years of age and upwards, were numerous, wearing green ribbons. The band played the "Dead March." The number of spectators lining the route between London-road Railway Station and Lever-street (which is opposite to the Infirmary) could not have been less than 5,000 or 6,000. The crowd and procession were alike orderly. There were no police to be seen, all being kept in reserve. As the procession marched past the New Bailey, where the gallows had been erected, they gave cheers for Allen, Larkin, and Gould; and one cheer for old Ireland. The band played the well-known tune of "Adestes Fideles." The processionists eventually quietly dispersed. The mayors of Manchester and Salford were at their respective town halls in readiness. Large bodies of police were held in reserve, and the military in their barracks were held in readiness. The processionists assisted the police against thieves when needed.

METROPOLITAN.

A LARGE meeting of cab proprietors and drivers was held at Exeter Hall on Tuesday, to protest against the continuation of the duty on cabs, and the clause in the New Streets Act which compels them to carry expensive lamps.

On Saturday an inquest was held in Union-street, Borough, on the body of Henry Pond, a barman, aged 27 years. Deceased committed suicide by throwing himself from Southwark-bridge into the river on Tuesday morning. The body was not found till Thursday. A verdict was returned that the deceased had committed "Suicide while in a state of temporary insanity."

The beautiful new church of St. Clement's, Notting-hill, was broken into late on Saturday night. The thieves succeeded in carrying off the communion cloths, all the robes, curtains, and other effects. They were, however, disappointed in what was manifestly their chief object—finding the church plate, which is always kept elsewhere. The police are using every exertion to bring the miscreants to justice.

Owing probably to the unfavourable weather, there was a smaller attendance of disturbers at All Saints' Church, Lambeth, on Sunday last, the only noticeable opposition being from one man, who kept shouting "Amen" before the conclusion of the prayers. The clergy wore purple stoles. There was a large choir, but the singing was wretchedly bad, out of time and out of tune. The Rev. Dr. Lee was the celebrant, but there were not many communicants.

THERE will be no danger of another calamity at the Ornamental Water in Regent's park, similar to that which occurred last year. The immense drain was completed last week, and the water is now gradually being let off. Every precaution has been taken to prevent the bursting of the sewer into which it runs. Large mounds of earth and rubbish are on the banks ready to level the body of the lakes with. This will be well puddled over with clay, and then concrete placed over.

The report of the directors of the Bank of British North America recommends the usual half-yearly dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax. The business of the bank is stated to be in a satisfactory condition, and reference is made to the good harvest in Canada, which, coupled with the high prices of grain in the markets of Europe, must, the directors consider, have added materially to the wealth of the classes connected with agriculture, and may be expected to give an impetus to the trade of the dominion.

THE two sub-warders in the Middlesex House of Correction charged with obtaining money from the relatives of a convict, in order to procure pudding for the latter, have been brought up again at Worship-street police-court. The convict was put in the box as a witness, but appeared to give evidence reluctantly. One of the accused, named Williams, was committed for trial; the other, James Allott, was discharged, there being no case against him.

"COLONEL" BURKE and his friend Casey, the two Fenians, arrested a week or ten days ago, under another long examination at Bow-street on Saturday. Godfrey Massey, the approver, gave evidence as to Burke's connection with the Fenian movement, and displayed much ill-temper in the witness box. Two percussion-cap makers of Birmingham deposed to Burke's purchasing between two and three millions of percussion caps, 650 revolvers, and a quantity of rifles. The purchase money amounted to about £2,000, and ready cash was always paid. The examination was further adjourned, and the prison van was escorted from the court to the goal by a detachment of mounted police.

THE *Record* gives an authorized report of the Low Church meeting at St. James's Hall this week, to which the reporters were not admitted. A resolution was adopted against the Real Presence doctrine, and then the Rev. Dr. Miller moved the following resolution put in the form of a question:—"We are agreed that any arrangement by which Vestments, admitted by the Ritualistic party themselves to be symbolical of the 'doctrine of the Sacrifice in the Lord's Supper,' may be allowed to be used at any time of their ministrations by the ministers of the Church, either with the sanction of a bishop or bishops, or in compliance with the wishes of a congregation, would involve a departure from the Protestant teaching of the United Church of England and Ireland." Dr. Miller said:—"I am one of those who hold—and let me not be mistaken—that the Lord's Supper is to the faithful people of Christ a sure and effectual means of grace. I hold that whoever goes there in faith does really partake in his heart of communion with his Lord. But I most distinctly deny and abhor every approach to the notion that the elements are anything more than the simple bread and wine which they were when placed upon the table. That they have been set apart for holy use, and that I would not use them afterwards for common purposes, I most distinctly affirm. But that there is consubstantiation or transubstantiation—that there is anything more than the real bread and wine—I utterly deny, and my whole preaching on the subject would be directed against it; and if we in the Church of England are to have any authoritative enactment by which the Church is involved in complicity with this doctrine—I am not speaking of the vagaries of any particular gentleman, but of the authority of the Church—then the clergyman may be in a position analogous to that of the Reformers of old. We may not have the stake, or the incision, or the rack before us, but there will be only one course left to us. If the Evangelical clergymen of the Church of England, after that Church has become involved in this complicity, acquiesce in it, they are utterly unfaithful to the memory of those martyrs who have died to preserve to us the truth. There are those present, and maybe some outside, who think it unwise to hint at such an extremity as this. But I think the time has come for plain speaking, and we are not to tone down the ideas of the Conference by that 'nasty little virtue called prudence.' I tell the bishops of the Church and our statesmen and the Ritualistic party, and the great body of the laity, that we are not prepared to let the Reformed Church of England be involved in this doctrine."—The Rev. J. C. Ryle moved the following resolution, which we are told gave rise to a long and animated discussion that is not reported at length:—"We are agreed that an appeal should be made to the courts of law on the subject of Ritualistic doctrines and practices; and, if so, we are prepared to support such appeal with the necessary funds."—The other resolutions passed were as follows:—"That a guarantee fund of not less than £50,000 be raised to enable the council to assist parishioners who may apply to them for advice and expenses of appeals to the law courts undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining the law on any point involving Romanizing doctrines or Ritualistic practices. That every guarantor be responsible for the full sum to which he has appended his name, but that he be called on *pro rata* at the discretion of the council, whatever be the amount of the guarantee fund, as the expenditure to be incurred may require. That legislative measures are necessary in order to provide an effectual remedy for the serious evils which afflict our Church, and that this session should not pass without the reform of those courts which deal with ecclesiastical cases being pressed on Parliament. That it is desirable that more energetic and systematic efforts should be made for the enlightenment of public opinion by the press, by the circulation of publications, by special services or lectures, and by public meetings or discussions contrasting the teaching of Holy Scripture, of the Prayer-Book, and of the Reformers, with that of Romanizing Ritualism. We are agreed that the unity of action amongst Protestant Evangelical members of the Church of England is most essential at the present time, and that such action should flow through the Church Association in order to give it concentration and effect."

FOREIGN AND GENERAL.

THE body of the Emperor Maximilian has been given up to Admiral Tegethoff by Juarez.

THERE are now about twenty daily newspapers in Roumania. There are also several local journals, two of which are published at Jassy, five at Bucharest, three at Galatz, and one in each of the district capitals.

THE telegraphic advices from the seat of war on the Parana state that a cavalry engagement had taken place, in which the Paraguayans lost 1,000 killed and 200 prisoners, the Brazilians' loss being only 80.

THE principal aquarium at the International Maritime Exhibition, which is to be opened at Havre next spring, is to represent Pengl's Cave. It will be 130 feet in length and 50 feet in breadth. The works are already commenced.

AUSALIAN papers record the death, in the 81st year of his age, of James Rennie, M.A., formerly Professor of Zoology in King's College, London. Mr. Rennie was author of the popular work "Insect Architecture," and of numerous other works, less widely known, but all of some merit. He came with a good reputation from his college (Glasgow) to London in 1821, and emigrated to New South Wales in 1840.

THE announcement recently made that the Royal Mail Steam-packet Company contemplated running their main line West India steamers through to Colon (Isthmus of Panama) from Southampton, instead of transshipping the mails, passengers, and cargo for the Pacific, at St. Thomas, has been received with much satisfaction, and it is hoped the company will not hesitate to carry out as early as possible, so desirable a modification in the service. The recent disastrous events in the West Indies point to the absolute necessity for some such alteration. The Government would probably not be unwilling to make a reasonable addition to the company's subsidies, towards any subsequent additional expense.

A TELEGRAM from Trieste, containing a summary of the intelligence from India by the in-coming Calcutta mail, gives us various details of the great cyclone with which Bengal was visited on the 1st of November. Its range was very wide, and the destruction of life and property was immense. The damage in Calcutta is said to be greater than in the cyclone of 1864; in the suburbs a thousand lives were lost, and 30,000 native huts were destroyed. Next to the loss of life the greatest calamity is the injury to the rice crops, of which in many places, not more than a fourth part will be saved. There was, consequently, much distress in Bengal, but active measures were being taken by the authorities for the relief of the sufferers.

THE debate in the French Senate on the Roman question was brought to a close on Saturday, by a speech of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. He stated that it was not the intention of the French Government to renew an indefinite occupation of Rome, and that the French troops would only remain there as long as was necessary for the safety of the Pope. He said that although the question between Italy and the Papacy was a difficult one, it was, however, capable of solution, being simply a question of mistrust between the two Governments, which might one day disappear. No definite settlement has been arrived at with reference to the Conference. England, Russia, and Prussia, it is said, decline to entertain the proposal till a definite programme is agreed on.

MR. DELAUNAY has just read a paper to the Academy of Sciences on the sun's parallax, stating that notwithstanding the efforts made by astronomers to determine its value, they still await with impatience the transits of Venus across the sun's disk in 1874 and 1882, which will afford the means of arriving at the truth, unattainable by other processes. M. Delaunay also mentioned Mr. Simon Newcomb's labours. Mr. Newcomb concludes that the most probable value of the horizontal equatorial parallax of the sun is 8.848 sec. with a probable error of 0.013 either in plus or minus. In this case the distance of the sun from the earth may be taken at 25,307 radii of the terrestrial equator, or something more than 148 millions of kilometres. The mass of the sun being taken for a unit, those of the earth and moon together will be 1/322,800ths.

THE Royal Mail steamer *Mandingo*, which arrived at Liverpool on Saturday with the West Coast of Africa mails, brings intelligence of a melancholy affair with a body of natives on the Niger, Bishop Crowther, of Sierra Leone, in October, went on a visitation up the Niger, and among other places visited a village named Ida. After some palaver between the bishop and the natives the latter resolved on detaining the bishop till a handsome ransom was paid for his release. Hereupon the vice-consul at the confluence of the Niger, Mr. Fell, and a party of Europeans, proceeded, in the exploring steamer, to demand the liberation of the bishop. The natives of Ida flatly refused to surrender their prisoner, and a fight commenced, during which Bishop Crowther managed to escape and get on board the steamer. The Europeans then retreated to the shore, and were on board of one of the boats, when the natives poured into it a perfect shower of arrows, one of which pierced the heart of Mr. Fell, who died instantaneously. The steamer then pushed off and returned to Sierra Leone. At Benin a battle had taken place between Governor Jerry and the Chief Alluma, in which the former was defeated with a heavy loss. At old Calabar, King Archibong still continued his atrocities, but the Europeans were taking measures to prevent any further slaughter of the natives.

ARMED NEGROES IN THE SOUTH.

IT is impossible to judge at present of the real stress of the trouble which seems to be occasioned in the South by the existence of armed negro bands, but there will evidently be no lack of firmness in the dealings of the Executive with this seemingly serious difficulty. The alleged demands upon the land will probably be fully met by the grant to the freedmen, already made in Alabama by General Swayne, of a lien on crops for wages. We are of those who never expected that Mr. Johnson would be impeached, and we are now encouraged to offer two other vaticinations. We believe that Congress will not, in spite of its changed composition, absolutely reverse the system of re-construction to which it has been supposed in England that the President is positively opposed. And, secondly, we believe that, if the Democrats attempt to adopt this policy, they will find Mr. Johnson as firmly hostile to them as he ever was to the Republicans. It has not been by allying himself closely to either party that Mr. Johnson has been sustained through his troubles; and it is not by following the Democratic lead, any more than by sharing the fanaticism of the Republicans, that English observers will discover the key to the American future. The policy of treating the Southern whites with common-sense gentleness, and holding in the Southern blacks by common-sense restraints, has not failed yet, nor will it fail. And there are at least four remarkable men—Mr. Johnson, General Grant, General Sherman, and Mr. Seward—who will not turn aside from this policy, either to the right hand or to the left, however they may be badgered or coaxed by rival parties in the State. Americans are not, as a rule, favourable to unsuccessful men, and we are not much disposed to credit the rumour that General McClellan will become Secretary for War. Everything favours Grant's prospects for the presidency, and most of all the silence which at present embarrasses his own friends not less than the supporters of other candidates. The Congress will evidently be much occupied in the ensuing session with fiscal discussions, and the tariff is almost certain to be considerably modified.—*Leader*.

CONTRADICTORY ACCOUNTS.

It is difficult to explain the contradictory accounts which the newspapers occasionally publish of events about which there should be no great difficulty in ascertaining the truth. The correspondent of the *Times* at Rome, writing on the 23rd ult., illustrates the spirit the Papal Government has now displayed towards its vanquished enemies by the fate of young Cairoli, who is said to have replied contemptuously to the consolations offered to him on his sick bed by the Holy Father. The writer says:—

"The wounded Garibaldian is said to have declined the Pope's blessing, and to have reproached him with his own and his brother's fate. What the exact words are is known but imperfectly, but it is certain that they were such as few Popes have ever had addressed to them. Before Pius left the hospital an expression of regret was conveyed to him, but the offence had been given, and punishment quickly followed. Cairoli was taken from the hospital to a prison, where he was placed in solitary confinement, and where none have since been allowed to see him. The vindictiveness of priestly rancour is proverbial, and many suppose he will never again be heard of."

But the correspondent of the *Standard*, writing on the 24th ult., on the same subject—the fate of young Cairoli—says:—

"The younger Cairoli was very slightly wounded in the arm and head, and is now entirely recovered, and would be liberated tomorrow if he consented to give his word not to serve again in the bands. I saw and conversed with him yesterday (the 23rd ult.), and found him, I am glad to say, in perfect convalescence, and treated with every kindness and respect; and as it may be a consolation to his family to know this, I have no hesitation in asking you to mention it."

The *Times* correspondent in the same letter declares that the magnificent villa of the Duchess Sforza-Cesarini at Genzano has

DR. JAMES HAMILTON.

DR. JAMES HAMILTON, who was interred in Highgate Cemetery, was a very excellent specimen of a small and peculiar school of divines. There were two specially singular facts in the history of Presbyterianism. One is that English Presbyterianism, after playing such a prominent part in the seventeenth century, should have dwindled away to its present dimensions. Another is that Scottish Presbyterianism, so tenaciously adhered to on the other side of the Tweed, should sit so lightly on Scotsmen as soon as they leave their own country. But both circumstances tend to increase the value of a really able Presbyterian minister in London; and we doubt if in Scotland itself any single minister has exercised greater personal influence than Dr. Hamilton during the present generation. He was much liked as a preacher and pastor, and very popular as a religious writer; he acquired some literary distinction in much more critical quarters. Thus he contributed a good paper on the ecclesiastical condition of Holland (a subject strangely neglected in Scotland, considering the kindred character of the Churches of the two countries) to the *North British Review* of some years back. And he also wrote in *Macmillan's Magazine* on Erasmus with superior knowledge and taste; we may add, too, with superior sympathy and appreciation. He was, indeed, a more liberal-minded man than modern Presbyterianism usually produces; and the influence of the south was seen in the modifications of the forms of Scottish worship which he sanctioned and adopted. For instance, he knelt at prayer on occasions where it is the custom of the Scottish churches to adopt a standing attitude; and at funerals he offered prayer at the grave—another "innovation" on the usages amidst which he had been bred. These facts—of little importance from some points of view—have their value as signs of the influence which national intercommunication is exercising over the sterner traditions of Presbyterianism. In private life the

"GIRLS' HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE."

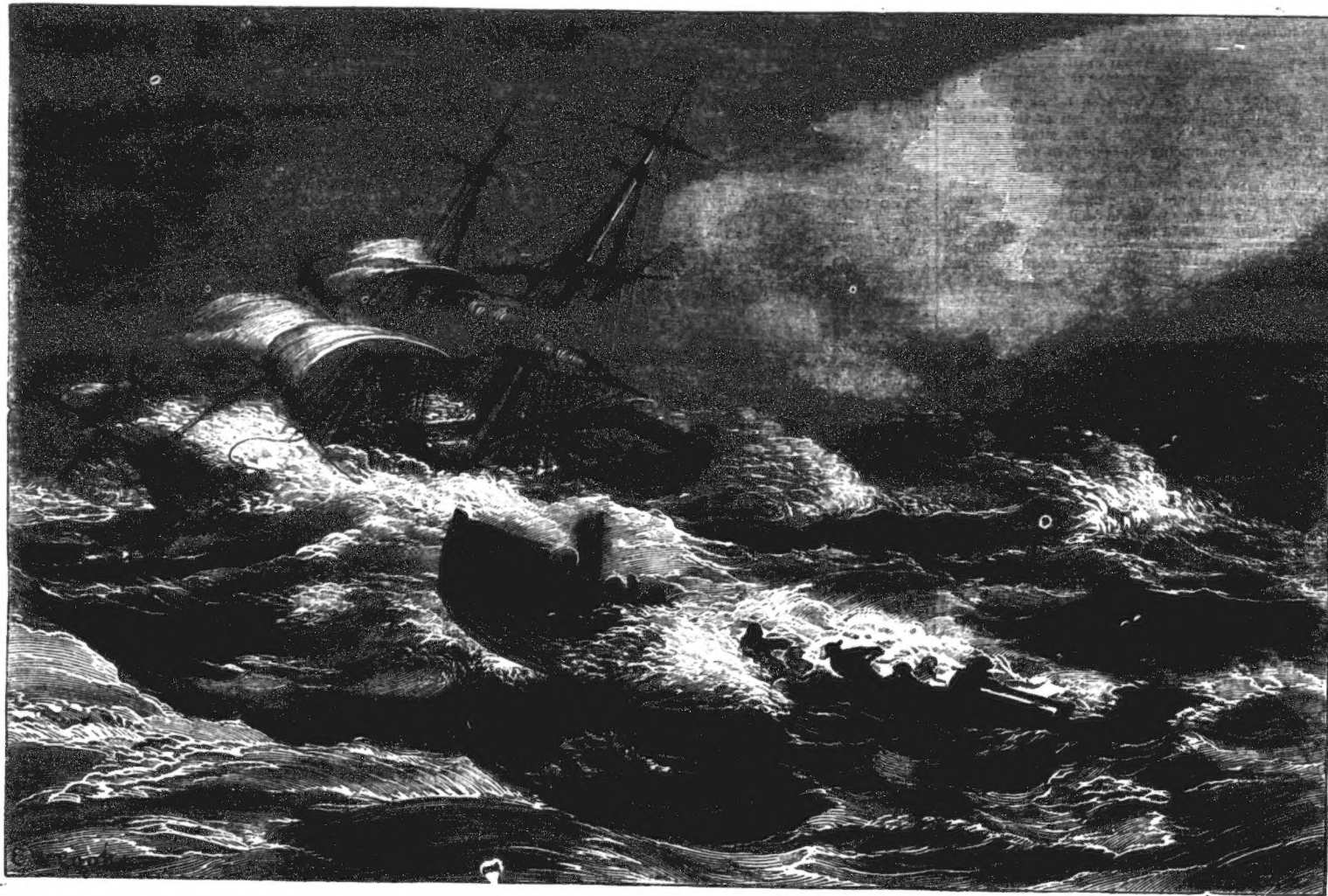
The following letter has appeared in a contemporary:—I have much pleasure in communicating to the subscribers of this charity, by means of your valuable paper, the following report:—

To your first notice is mainly attributable the success of an original but crude idea of my own, and I am sure the girls are much indebted to you for giving prominence to their case, by which so many have been rescued from the lowest courts and alleys in the vast metropolis, and have found decent, comfortable homes for themselves for ever, if they will only keep steady, and remain in the paths of virtue to which they have been guided by a benovolent public.

Mr. and Mrs. Hey, the superintendents of the Southwark branch, announce with much satisfaction that in the course of a little over twelve months 89 young girls have passed through their hands, been comfortably clothed for daily household work, and have ultimately got situations, or else been employed by their relatives; at all events, from being shoeless and wanderers in the street, they have earned their daily bread, and, in a large majority, a home for life.

These children have from 1s. to 2s. a week paid them whether they earn it back or not, but the result has been the loss only of a few shillings. They thus are certain of wages, clothes, and food. The cost of getting these girls out has not exceeded £1 1s. per head, including dress, management, and rooms, and the demand is rapidly increasing.

No case of theft has occurred amongst them, and their conduct has been orderly in the extreme, considering the rough-looking places they come from. Many whilst waiting for employment have been taught to read and write. The girls are employed more and more as the work advances, and on all Saturdays the demand is greater than the supply. The depression in trade makes people



WRECK ON THE GOODWIN SANDS—THE PROVIDENCE LIFE-BOAT PROCEEDING TO THE RESCUE.

been spitefully turned into a barrack for the Antebians, who have gutted the house, smashed and burnt its valuable contents, and cut down the timber, and that the Duchess, when she repaired to Rome to complain of this outrage, was ordered to leave the city within twenty-four hours. We shall probably soon read in the *Standard* that the Pope, fearing that the Duchess Sforza's premises at Genzano might be damaged by brigands, has considerably placed in it a guard for its protection, and has begged her grace, whilst residing in Rome on urgent private affairs, to accept a suite of rooms in the Vatican and the services of his Holiness's French cook.

DIETARY IN GAOLS.—Lord Mayo's reply, on Thursday night, to the interrogation of Sir F. Heygate on the subject of the dietary of the Irish gaols was satisfactory. The commissioners appointed to inquire into the matter have already made considerable progress in their inquiry, and have received replies in the great majority of cases to the elaborate queries addressed by them to the medical officers of the various gaols. They have likewise received returns of the dietary of the unions in which the county gaols are respectively situated, and also valuable information respecting the dietary of the labouring classes generally, and the rate of wages. A report may be expected before Christmas, and as soon as it is received Lord Mayo promises to act upon it without delay.

THE DIATYZED ORGANIC IRON AND THE DIATYZED ORGANIC IODINE are now fully appreciated by the English public as a pleasant and efficient mode of taking iron and iodine. Unhoped-for cures have been effected in a number of cases in which the other preparations of iron or iodine have been found incapable of being supported by the patients. Thanks and testimonials are received every day from all parts. In fact, these medicines, under their pleasant form, are found the most efficient.—Sold by all chemists, 2s. 9d. per bottle. Take note of Dr. Victor Baud's signature on the Government stamp, without which none are genuine.—[ADVT.]

TO CONSUMPTIVES.—Dr. H. James, the retired physician, continues to send by post, free of charge, to all who desire it, the copy of the prescription by which his daughter was restored to perfect health from confirmed consumption, after having been given up by her physician and despaired of by her father. Sent free to all on receipt of one stamp.—Address, O. P. BROWN, Secretary, No. 2, King-street, Covent-garden, London.—[ADVT.]

minister of Regent-square Church was much liked and respected, as a kind-hearted and agreeable man, of gentle and winning manners. Dr. Hamilton was twice married, and leaves a family of several children.

WRECK ON THE GOODWIN SANDS.

LATE ON Saturday night, during fearfully rough weather, and when it was very dark, intelligence was received at Littlestone that the Dover Trinity pilot cutter, No. 4, was on shore about six miles to leeward of the life-boat station. The Providence life-boat, belonging to the National Life-boat Institution, was launched as soon as possible, and proceeded to her assistance. After a long pull the life-boat reached the spot, and found that the crew, with the exception of one man, had managed to reach the shore in their own boat. One poor fellow, however, in attempting to get into the boat, fell between her and the cutter, and was drowned. The vessel is knocked to pieces. An English brig, laden with a general cargo, also went on shore near No. 1 Battery, Dungeness. The crew were fortunately all saved.

ORDINARY LUCIFER MATCHES.—The Secretary of the Sun Fire Insurance Office stated to the Commons' Select Committee on Fires of last session, that he considers that carelessness in using ordinary lucifer matches causes to that office a loss of £10,000 a year. Surely statements of this kind should induce everyone to use only BRYANT & MAY'S Patent Safety Matches, which are not poisonous, and light only on the box. These Safety Matches are very generally sold by Grocers, Oilmen, &c.

JUST OUT, STEAM ENGINES (Patent), price 1s. 6d. each, of horizontal construction, manufactured entirely of metal fitted with copper boiler, steam pipe, furnace, &c., complete. Will work for hours if supplied with water and fuel. Sent carriage free, safely packed in wooden case, for 24 stamps.—TAYLOR BROTHERS, 21, Norfolk-road, Essex-road, Islington, London. Established 1859.—[ADVT.]

In consequence of the Reduction in Duty, Horniman's Teas are now supplied by the Agents, Eightpence per lb. cheaper. Every genuine packet is signed "Horniman and Co."—[ADVT.]

careful in employing children oftener than is absolutely necessary.

A new stock of clothes and boots will soon be needed, and any cast-off wearing apparel suitable for young girls going into service is more valuable really than money, as the girl does not get supplied with dress, except from day to day.

I trust the friends of these destitute girls will not forget us when the time comes round. No society in London has done so much in so short a time, and timely assistance does everything. It is in contemplation to have a gathering of all the girls at a tea party, when addresses will be given by influential persons on the necessity of the girls being careful to conduct themselves in a becoming manner in every station they may be placed in.

The society has lost many valuable contributors in the past year—John Bullar, Esq., treasurer; the Duke of Northumberland, Joseph Toynbee, &c., men whose enlarged views of what is due to womanhood in its early stage, and who on the first blush of the moment came forward and supported a cause which has too long been neglected.

The experiment of employing destitute girls is an established fact, and if the public will only support the movement a vast and even greater society than the Shoe-black Brigade will result.

I have hastily sketched out this report, and pride myself, in conjunction with Mr. and Mrs. Hey, to whom all praise is due, in having saved 89 girls from wretched misery and poverty, if not from a still worse-fated life. The Southwark branch alone will exist now, till it grows into larger dimensions; and all letters, addressed to Mrs. Hey, Rockingham House, New Kent-road; or myself, 5, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, will receive attention.—I am yours, respectfully, ALFRED EBSWORTH, F.R.C.S.E. Hon. Sec.

THE CITY OF CANTON.

The hurricanes which have caused such disastrous results in the West Indies and other parts, were also severely felt at Canton, the principal maritime city of China. On referring to our large engraving, on page 696, of this beautiful city, it will be at once seen what havoc any severe storms would do in such a place. The city is six miles in circumference, and the suburbs are perhaps as extensive and populous as the city itself. A large part of the population reside on the water, and the commerce of the place extends to almost all parts of the world.

ABYSSINIA AND THE ANCIENT JEWS.

THE past history of Abyssinia shows how ill-adapted is the system of chiefs and petty despotisms to anything like a settled condition of country. To all appearance Abyssinia has remained in the same disturbed state for many centuries—probably ever since the fall of Axum and the decline of its grandeur. Now a chief, superior to his fellows, would, after a fashion, rule the country for a period; but his death would as surely be the signal for one of those terrible commotions which invariably leave the country in a worse condition than ever. In fact, the history of Abyssinia appears to be made up of such recitals as abound in the chronicles of the Old Testament—a weary, and almost never-ending series of small fights and petty battles, carried on senselessly and without reasonable cause or provocation, betwixt tribes and families—where, for instance, the sons of Reuben and the tribe of Manasseh wage continual war with the Hagarites, and where a King is no sooner on his throne than he is slain, and sent to sleep with his fathers, the assassin or the eldest son reigning in his stead, until he, in turn, shall experience a similar fate. In other respects many points of similarity may be traced betwixt the ancient Jews and the Abyssinians. — *Hotten's Abyssinia Described.*

FEMINE CHARACTER.

WITHOUT any particular pains being taken in the subject, or constraint laid on the natural taste, the change of opinion and character in women follows their age as it does in men. And the only use of suppression or forcing is to fit them for those that want to marry them, instead of for those whom they want to marry. Girls like the unknown, the extraordinary, just as boys do; women, if they have any conscience, must see the necessity of the practical. Grown old, they are willingly contented with a limited field, little change, and the sunshine made by the well-being of those around them. They were made helpmeets with the same tastes and interests; but they are meet for nothing and companions for no one, when they have stifled their faculties and stopped their growth, hoping thereby to get their material interests provided for, by making someone else responsible. When once she has secured a position in which ways and means do not concern her (the only ones at her disposal having been exhausted when she gave herself for a maintenance), the interests of the people so paired are at variance so soon as the necessity for farther money-getting becomes evident. It is the wife's object to get all she can, the husband's to withhold. A chronic quarrel goes on which can never have more than a temporary lull—a quarrel that is a standing theme of ridicule to all who wish to depreciate the state of matrimony; a quarrel that makes marriage impossible for the majority of men leads to middle life. Even wealth cannot satisfy the demands of a woman trained to look to another person for her means. Coercion is the only answer left to her demands, and, mildly or otherwise, it generally gets applied. — *Victoria Magazine.*



THE HERSCHEL MONUMENT AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THE HERSCHEL MONUMENT AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THE monument shown in our illustration was erected in 1845, in commemoration of the discoveries of Sir John Herschel, the astronomer. It is erected on the spot from whence Sir John made his important observations of the southern hemisphere.

THE QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM.

This hospital was founded in 1840, and completed in 1847, at a cost of £8,726. The Queen and the late Prince Albert (its early president), were particularly identified with the building, hence it was called the Queen's Hospital. It was enlarged in 1859, the funds being realised by one of the trustees (Mr. Sands Cox) hitting upon the then novel plan of calling for a million of postage stamps. The artisans of the neighbourhood vied with their masters in collecting them, and the result was eminently successful.

MDME. FRIGARD, condemned to hard labour for life for the murder of M^{me}. Martens in the wood at Fontainebleau, has just been delivered in prison of twins, a boy and a girl.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

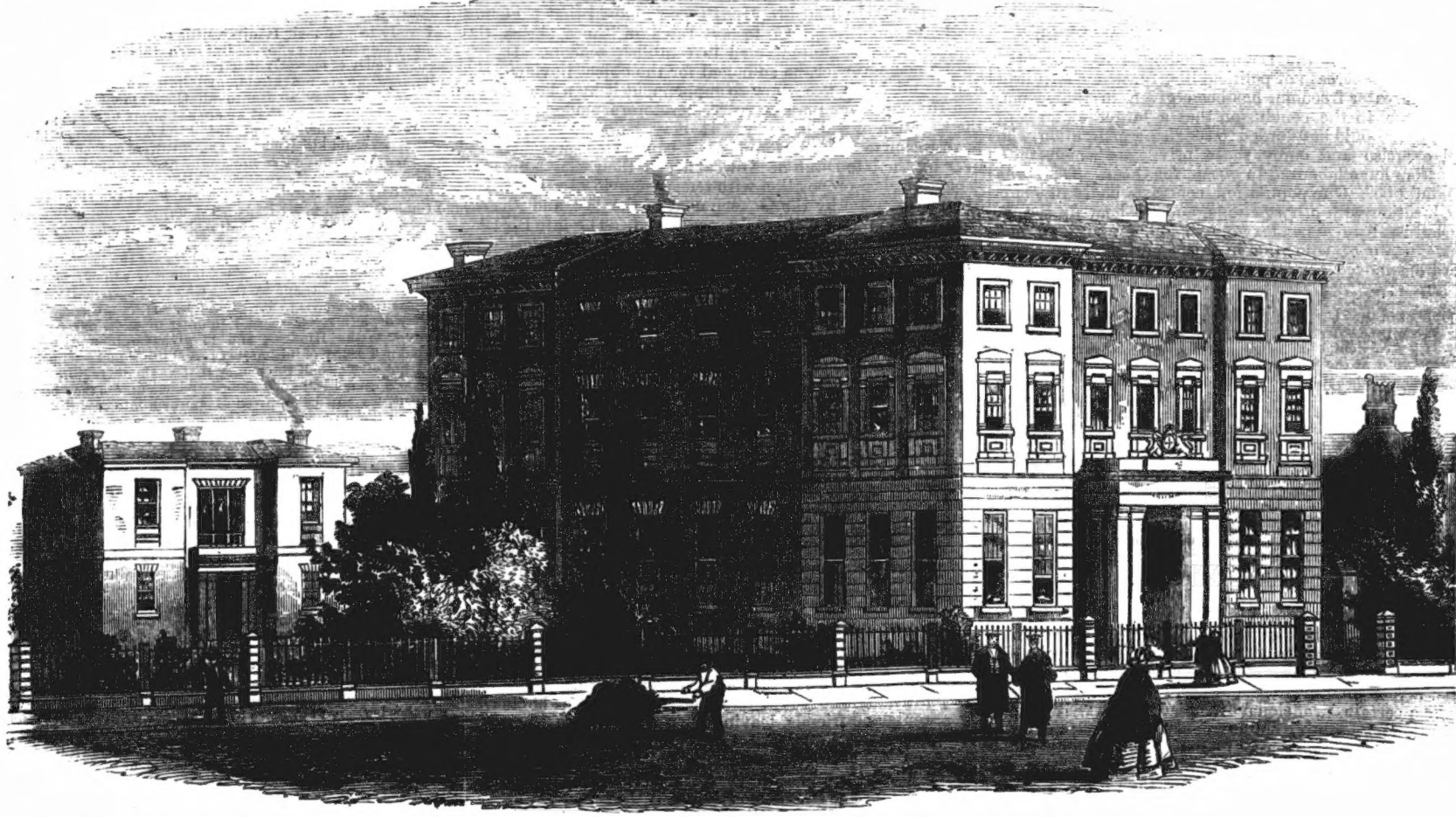
ARCHDEACON WORDSWORTH has judged it a decent and convenient proceeding to discuss from the pulpit the propriety of capital punishment. There are persons who regard the Christian clergy as the bearers and expounders of a message of peace and brotherly love, and who object to questions relating to political economy and jurisprudence being mixed up with religious teachings. Such persons would probably decline to accept as a rule for the guidance of a Christian State in the nineteenth century the law of retaliation imposed, in the name of the Deity, upon the most merciless nation known in the world's history, by one of the authors of the Pentateuch. They might even inquire if any Oriental language under the sun possesses an equivalent for the Teutonic "shall" and "will," and in default of any such definite expression might suggest as the proper reading of the death-dealing phrase, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood by man will his blood be shed." The denunciation is thus simply converted into a statement, unhappily too well verified by facts. In any case, is it not almost time to base our jurisprudence upon a somewhat broader and more liberal foundation than the Jewish code and ritual? The archdeacon, we trust, is at least consistent, and never by any chance flavours his turkey or chicken with a delicate slice of Yorkshire or Westphalia ham. — *Leader.*

ROWING.

WE are finally agreed, I should say at the end of a brilliant display of logical fence, that that sport is the best which affords the amplest scope for the employment of the greatest number of the highest faculties; or, in other words, which is the best trial of the skill which makes the body a perfect instrument of

the mind, of the muscular strength and general power of endurance, and therein of the high moral quality known vulgarly as "pluck," and, finally, of the various intellectual powers which are necessary to success in any game that deserves much expenditure of energy. Let us consider rowing under each of these heads, and if it has not the first place in all, I think it must be admitted that as a combination of the three it occupies the highest place amongst all known athletic sports. — *St. Paul's.*

A FACT in connection with the Russian Court is worth mentioning. The leather exhibited here exemplifies by its important qualities the great value of the well-kept secret of the tanning process for which Russia has so long been famous. Its softness, its durability, its peculiar and pleasant odour, and its imperviousness to wet, recommend this leather for every description of boot. To cover our poor feet, after all there is nothing like leather, and there is no leather like Russian. The fact alluded to is this—that the whole of the best samples in the department have been secured by an Englishman, Mr. S. W. NORMAN, of Westminster-bridge-road, Lambeth. — *The Cosmopolitan.* — [ADVT.]



THE QUEEN'S HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRES.

COVENT GARDEN.—Grand Duchess of Gerolstein. Eight.
HER MAJESTY'S.—Italian Opera.—Eight.
DRURY LANE.—The Duke of Venice.—The Ladies' Club.
Seven.
HAYMARKET.—The Winning Card.—Brother Sam.—My Wife's Mother. Seven.
ADELPHI.—Man is not Perfect, nor Woman Either.—Maud's Peril.—The School for Tigers. Seven.
LYCEUM.—Perfection.—(At Eight). Romeo and Juliet. Seven.
PRINCESS'S.—A Little Flirtation.—(At a Quarter to Eight). The Colleen Bawn.—Number One Round the Corner. Seven.
OLYMPIC.—From Grave to Gay.—If I had a Thousand a Year.—My Wife's Bonnet. Seven.
ST. JAMES'S.—Fifteen Years of Labour Lost.—The School of Reform.—A Widow Hunt. Seven.
STRAND.—Nothing to Nurse.—Kind to a Fault.—William Tell with a Vengeance. Seven.
NEW QUEEN'S.—He's a Lunatic.—Still Waters Run Deep.—The First Night. Seven.
HOLBORN.—For Love.—(At Nine). Mary Turner. Seven.
PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Caste.—Allow me to Explain. Half-past Seven.
NEW ROYALTY.—Milky White.—(At Half-past Nine). The Latest Edition of Black-Eyed Susan.—The Rendezvous. Half-past Seven.
ASTLEY'S.—That Rascal Jack.—Mazappa. Seven.
NEW EAST LONDON.—The Gambler.—Rebecca. Seven.
BRITANNIA.—The King's Death Trap.—Rip Van Winkle.—Mary Blane.
ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE AND CIRCUS.—The American Circus every Evening.—Grand Morning Performances every Wednesday and Saturday.

THE SIGHTS OF LONDON.

1.—FREE.

British Museum; Chelsea Hospital; Courts of Law and Justice; Dock; Dulwich Gallery; East India Museum, Fife House, Whitehall; Greenwich Hospital; Hampton Court Palace; Houses of Parliament; Kew Botanic Gardens and Pleasure Grounds; Museum of Economic Geology, Jermyn-street; National Gallery; National Portrait Gallery; Patent Museum, adjoining the South Kensington Museum; Soane's Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Society of Arts' Exhibitions of Inventions (in the spring of every year); St. Paul's Cathedral; Westminster Abbey; Westminster Hall; Windsor Castle; Woolwich Dockyard and Repository.

2.—PAYMENT REQUIRED.

Crystal Palace, Sydenham; Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly; Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street; Royal Academy; British Institution; Society of British Artists; Water Colour Societies; Polytechnic Institution, Regent-street; Thames Tunnel; Tus-saud's Waxwork, Baker-street Bazaar; Zoological Gardens.

3.—BY INTRODUCTION.

Antiquarian Society's Museum, Somerset House; Armourers' Museum, 81, Coleman-street; Asiatic Society's Museum, 5, New Burlington-street; Bank of England Museum (collection of coins); Botanical Society's Gardens and Museum, Regent's-park; College of Surgeons' Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Guildhall Museum (old London antiquities); Linnean Society's Museum, Burlington House; Mint (process of coining), Tower-hill; Naval Museum, South Kensington; Royal Institution Museum, Albemarle-street; Trinity House Museum, Tower-hill; United Service Museum, Scotland-yard; Woolwich Arsenal.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(All letters to be addressed to the Editor, 13, Catherine-street, Strand.)

The Illustrated Weekly News.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1867.

(REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.)

THE EMANCIPATION OF THE MASSES.

It appears that the Liberal leaders, recognising the fact that an increase of political liberty, which will lead to still greater freedom, has been given to the people, now come to the conclusion that a larger amount of education should be afforded to the rising generation, who will exercise and enjoy those privileges which their ancestors have laboured to obtain for them. This is as it should be. Our population contrasts badly in point of education with other nations, and we heartily second Earl Russell in his endeavour to bring about an improved state of education in this country. The noble Lord has moved the following resolutions in the House of Lords:—

1. That in the opinion of this House the education of the working classes in England and Wales ought to be extended and improved. Every child has a right to the blessings of education, and it is the duty of the State to guard and maintain that right. In the opinion of this House the diffusion of knowledge ought not to be hindered by religious differences; nor should the early employment of the young in labour be allowed to deprive them of education.
2. That it is the opinion of this House that Parliament and Government should aid in the education of the middle classes, by providing for the better administration of charitable endowments.
3. That it is the opinion of this House that the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge may be made more useful to the nation by the removal of restrictions, and by the appointment of a commission to consider of the better distribution of their large revenues for purposes of instruction in connection with the said universities.
4. That the appointment of a minister of education by the Crown, with a seat in the Cabinet, would, in the opinion of this House, be conducive to the public benefit.

There is no question as to the desirability of the attainment of such a condition of things that every child shall pass a certain portion of time in the school. Of course, although this may be attained, there may yet exist a vast amount of ignorance. Even if we were to make a certain proficiency in reading or writing the condition of obtaining employment of any kind, we could not compel the boy or man to keep up the knowledge gained at school. For those who have to live by manual labour the school can do little more than provide these instruments for further education, and it can scarcely be hoped that the great mass will make much use of

them. However, everybody is agreed as to the importance of putting those instruments into the hands of every child. The only question is as to the best means of effecting this end. In a draft report of a committee of the House of Commons, which sat in 1865 and 1866, upon the subject of the education of the poor, it was stated that there were 11,000 parishes which derived no assistance from the educational grant. The population of these parishes, it was stated, might be fairly estimated at not less than 6,000,000, and taking the present estimate, that not more than one-sixth of the population are at school, there is a deficiency of 1,000,000 not received the blessings of education. It appears from a recently-published speech of Mr. Bruce, Vice-President of the Council of Education of the late Government, that the population of England and Wales is 21,000,000, and that, consequently, 3,500,000 children ought to be at school, but that the books show there are only 2,450,000, leaving 1,350,000 unaccounted for. In the parish of St. George's, Hanover-square, the percentage of those who could not sign the marriage register is 3 per cent., and in Bethnal-green 34 per cent., and for England and Wales it may be taken at about 30 per cent. These figures do not, however, completely show the deficiency of education which exists, because many of these people attended school very early in life, but from having been kept there for a very short time, forgot what they had learnt, and were afterwards found to be in total ignorance. It appears to us that this is a state of things which justifies proceedings of a very wide and comprehensive character being taken for the purpose of carrying the blessings of education much further than they extend at present. During the course of his able and exhaustive speech, Earl Russell made the following remarkable statement:—"In 1835, Lord Brougham brought forward a series of resolutions with reference to education which were agreed to, and have since been acted upon. On that occasion Lord Denman said he very much doubted how far the State was justified in inflicting punishment for offences against the commission of which it had taken no pains to guard. I believe that statement to be perfectly well founded, and it does seem to me that to send children out into the streets of our villages and towns totally ignorant of the name of Christ and the laws of their country, and punish them for any offences which they might commit, not having first taken the pains to educate them, is a degree of injustice which ought no longer to continue." This is laying the axe to the root of a tree. If a man sins through ignorance, is he to be confounded with and punished as severely as the man who commits a crime knowingly and perversely, being well aware of its enormity, not having the fear of God or the law before him? Our criminal law says yes. It makes no distinction. At present we make criminals and then—*visum tenetur*. We find fault with our own handiwork and imprison our promising pupils. In Prussia, one-sixth of the people receive education. In France they are educated, and also in Scotland. In the latter country, by the law of 1697, parish schools have been established to a great extent, and in Ireland, it is said, by persons who are conversant with the matter, that you cannot go two miles without finding a school; that may be an exaggeration. The question how funds are to be provided for the education of the people next arises, and this must be done either by local rates or by grants of Parliament carried to a greater extent than they have hitherto been carried. The proposition to meet it by a rate was introduced last session in a bill brought in by Mr. Bruce. In that bill Mr. Bruce proposed that permission should be given to levy rates in those places where the inhabitants wished to establish schools. It might not, however, be sufficient for the object in view, and it might be necessary to supplement it by a larger and further grant than we have heretofore made from the taxation of the country. It may be necessary to have recourse to both sources. A committee, presided over by the late Duke of Newcastle, in their very able report, made a proposition with reference to local rating. It was discussed by the Government of the day, and its consideration was ultimately postponed. The late Sir G. C. Lewis, who applied himself seriously to this question, and whose judgment in reference to it was entitled to respect, said the fault in the report of that committee was that it did not propose to give local control, and he observed further that if local rates are levied, the persons who pay them ought to have a discretion as to the manner in which they should be applied for the purposes of education. Lord Russell thinks that there is another great improvement which might be adopted, and that is the system of half-time in schools—giving three hours instead of five or six hours for the purposes of education. Mr. Chadwick, a gentleman who has written much on this subject, in a speech which he made in the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences in Paris, part of the great establishment of the Institute, shows very clearly by experience and by various facts that the plan of having children part of their time in factories and part of their time in schools, allowing them also time for recreation and play, has been most successful, and that those who have given their attention for three hours in school, being persons of tender age, have advanced in knowledge quite as much as those who have nominally given attendance for six hours. The question of religious instruction is at all times a difficult one. There are politicians who would have religion taught at home by parents and friends, leaving boys and girls to learn only useful—in the practical sense of the word—knowledge at school. In conclusion, the people have had power given them, will have more power given them, and they must be taught how to use it with moderation and discretion, so that they shall conduce to the material prosperity and well being of our great country.

PUBLIC OPINION.

THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE.

THE persistent rumours of an approaching Conference which are so industriously circulated by the French telegraphic agencies and semi-official journals would leave little room for doubt if we could forget that the Congress of Paris, which never took place, was announced with equal pertinacity and confidence. So long as it was a mere question of accepting a general invitation "on principle," the Congress seemed certain. But we know what a general invitation is worth in private life. The question really is, not who will attend a Conference, but what is the Conference to do. A Conference on the Roman question, attended by the representative of the Pope on condition that the question of the temporal should not be raised; and by the representative of Italy on condition that the right of Italy to the possession of the annexed portions of the Papal States, and to Rome as the national capital, should not be disputed, would be a comfortable, but hardly a conclusive way of doing business. A Conference will never sanction a perpetual foreign intervention at Rome, without which it is impossible for the temporal power to subsist. A Conference will never abolish the temporal power. It might give the authority of a collective European sanction to the ample securities which Italy is ready to offer, and the Pope refuses to accept, for the independence of the spiritual sovereignty. But it is the temporal and not the spiritual sovereignty that the Conference is invited to discuss. And this no Conference will undertake to destroy or to protect. Then why a Conference?—*Daily News*.

INDIA'S SHARE IN THE ABYSSINIAN WAR.

We hold that the matter put in issue by the King of Abyssinia concerns us infinitely more than it does the people of India, and therefore the less that is said about Indian prestige, as a reason for throwing on the Indian revenues the cost of the Indian troops employed in Abyssinia, the better. The fact is, our only justification for the course which the House of Commons has approved of is that a certain number of troops in Bombay are, so to speak, eating their heads off. They are specially adapted for the service in which we propose to employ them, and there is nothing iniquitous in making them earn the pay which, whether employed or idle, they will certainly receive. But when we act thus we must recollect that we place ourselves in a position where the honesty of our present and our future policy towards India becomes open to grave suspicion. It is not an experiment which will bear repetition, for otherwise the Indian people may get it into their heads that they are required to maintain a large military force not so much for the protection of their own dominions as for the vindication of the outraged honour of England in the adjacent regions of the globe.—*Post*.

ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

Buy no share in an unlimited company, even if the dividend is 100 per cent. Touch no railway security whatever, unless guaranteed by a State. Invest in no business company which you do not understand. Never look at a Turkish, Egyptian, or Spanish American security, unless you personally know the country. Invest for the time in consols, rents, colonial bonds, gas shares, or the bonds of long lived European governments. To which may be added, if he is willing to accept moderate risks, that repudiation by any government whatever not Oriental or Spanish in origin is improbable, total insolvency exceedingly unlikely, and ultimate total loss next to impossible. Even the Greek bondholders are better off than the shareholders in Overend, Gurney, and Company, the shareholders in the London, Chatham, and Dover, or the debenture holders in half a dozen English railways.—*Spectator*.

BRITISH "PRESTIGE."

The one object which we must confine ourselves to in Abyssinia is the rescue of the captives. But what are we to think when we find Sir Stafford Northcote telling us that he should scarcely have been prepared to liberate the English envoy by force, or at any rate would not have tried to liberate him so soon, if it had not been for India? What he really dreaded was the possible ill opinion of some possible traveller from India to the Red Sea who would come back and say that we are not so strong as was thought. It would not signify that we did not liberate our envoys in Mexico, or Guatemala, or Ashango, because the Hadjis of the Nizam do not go to these places; but wherever these abominable creatures go, there we must do what we know to be our duty. This is almost as dangerous a doctrine as could be laid down, for it strips us of all the credit of acting on principle and consulting our honour; and it will surely suggest to the Nizams, and other such people, that they have only to send their Hadjis a little further, and they may control our whole foreign policy. But even this is not all. We are bent on a policy of masterly inactivity in regard to Russia, but we must show we are not afraid, and how are we to do this? Alas! by the old adage so dear to all Governments but really great ones. In order to show that we are not afraid of a big power, we are to kick a little one. We are to kick the Abyssinians in order to show that we could kill Russians too, if it were convenient to us to do so. We do not quite like to face the needle-gun, but we can try our Chassepot on the Garibaldians. But heaven alone knows what will satisfy these Hadjis. Those who know the Hadjis best seem to think they will never be satisfied unless we not only go to Abyssinia, but stay there. We shall make friends, and the Hadjis will expect us not to desert them; we shall make enemies, and the Hadjis will expect us to punish them. These are the prospects and these are the justifications of the Abyssinian war which are offered to us by the Government, and by those who have been most zealous in urging the Government to undertake it. If we are committed to the policy of setting war on foot in order to show our courage and resources to the Hindoos, and to give employment to our troops, what is a penny of income-tax? A shilling more of income-tax would not give us half the money that we should require. And if the Hindoos cannot be happy and prosperous unless they believe heartily in us, we must be prepared to tax them into credulity, and grind them in the dust, until they are quite sure we are ready to fight all the world. When we have done this we may take repose.—*Saturday Review*.

FENIANISM AND ITS REMEDY.

Let us answer the argument that the Fenian aims are not of a kind to give any opening for compromise or conciliation, and that unless we are prepared to dismember the British Empire, and to submit to the establishment of a hostile Republic at our very doors, it is idle to talk of any measures of Irish relief would make an appreciable difference in the result. This assumed impossibility makes no distinction between different classes of Fenians. Of many of them, no doubt, it is true that no Parliamentary action will avail to modify the object which they propose to themselves. Every such organization contains many who have joined it far more from irritation at some local or personal grievance than from any effective sympathy with the wider objects it proclaims. When an Irishman who feels himself aggrieved by his landlord, or by some lingering trace of Protestant ascendancy, finds a revolutionary society which is ready to promise him all he wants, he is not disposed to scrutinize very closely the nature of its further promises or the precise chances of their fulfillment. He looks upon it as an instrument which will help him to the attainment of his personal ends; and for that reason he associates himself with it. Now, supposing these ends to be secured in some other way, is it not likely that his zeal in the Fenian cause will sensibly decline? The absence of present personal soreness will by degrees make a wonderful difference in the temper with which a man regards

existing social and political arrangements, and, consequently, in the degree of interest he feels in the promotion of any effort to overthrow them. And this applies with far greater force to the classes who sympathize with the Fenians and do no more. The mass of the Irish people are certainly not loyal; but on the other hand, they are not openly disaffected. They contribute to the flame of insurrection, not fuel to feed it so much as an atmosphere in which it can burn freely; and if this one favourable condition were removed, it is not easy to over-estimate the deadening effect the change might exercise on the sparks which now threaten to blaze up into a dangerous conflagration. But of what avail, it may be asked once more, is it to attempt to satisfy the endless clamour of a discontented race? Men who allow that bare justice has not yet been done to a people have no right to pre-suppose that if it were done no satisfactory results would follow.—*Chronicle*.

THE IRREPRESSIBLE COMPOUND HOUSEHOLDER.

Though it was comparatively easy to execute and infer the compound householder when he stopped the way of a measure which a large majority was anxious to pass, it will take some time to lay the ghost which so many persons find it their interest to raise. The debate a few nights back forecasts very well the character of the inevitable discussions on this subject. The attempt of Sir Robert Collier to make political capital was, however, a sorry failure. The principle of the personal payment of rates is not destroyed by the payment through the owner for the occupier. It would be impossible to prevent such an arrangement. The rate collectors will, of course, take the rates from anybody who tenders the amount. But the tenant under the new law will know that he pays the rates, whatever his arrangement with his landlord. The demand will be made upon him. If he is a man who cares about the parliamentary franchise, he will care, too, about the parochial franchises which that payment secures him. If he is a pauper, or on the verge of pauperism, he will be excluded from the payment, and excluded from the franchise, and with that arrangement he cannot fairly quarrel. There will be a short period of difficulty, and then everything will come right. Sir Robert Collier will do well to at once abandon his belief in the resurrection of the compound householder. He may try all his skill, he will never galvanize the miserable creature into active life, although he may play a good many pranks with his corpse.—*Standard*.

THE NEW TWOPENCE IN THE INCOME-TAX.

The addition to the income-tax is in theory a penny, but in reality and upon what we have to pay during the rest of the financial year, it is twopence. No doubt the whole charge of our minor wars ought to be borne by us who make them, and if the provision of the Government is at fault, it is in not carrying out this principle more completely. The time when the new penny on the annual income-tax is to be taken off is not at all clear. It must stay on for another year, if the Abyssinian expedition cost as much as is believed. And, for the most part, the rule of doubling the first estimate is not generally found far wrong. For another year, and probably more, we shall probably pay the augmented taxation, and we deserve to pay it. We take no cognizance at all of the number of consuls or envoys which our Foreign Office sends to barbarous Powers, as they say, to "generate trade," as if people who wished to sell goods could not discover a market without their help. When there is a present trade, we should have a consul to look to it; but in no other case should we send any one. As to the charge upon the Indian revenue, the argument as to benefits to India from expeditions proves that India ought to pay very much of the cost of this expenditure, instead of only one-twelfth, as she is now made to pay. We hold with Lord Cranborne that we go to war to save (if possible) the lives of those who were sent to these savages; if any strength is added to our prestige from that we shall be glad, but we do not aim at unreal fame.—*Economist*.

WORKHOUSE REFORM.

Neither the Poor Law Board, nor the boards of guardians, nor the public, ever realised till last year, and, perhaps, have not fully realised now, the important change which has come over the character of poor houses. Most of those in the metropolis, and many of those in the country, are now hospitals in the old sense of that term, rather than workhouses, properly so called. The only real difficulty is a practical one—that of improving the lot of the infirm pauper without unduly burdening the struggling ratepayer. If the measure to be introduced by Lord Devon succeeds in meeting this difficulty, it will merit a favourable consideration; but, after all, no legislative remedy can supply the want of administrative vigour.—*Times*.

A HOPELESS DEPARTMENT.—The *Army and Navy Gazette* points out that "that most hopeless of all departments," the Quartermaster-General's department, is alone to blame for the waste of public money occasioned daily by travelling troops to and fro without any apparent reason. It must have been known to the Quartermaster-General that the 4th Hussars were shortly to embark for India; it must also have been known to that officer that they would have to embark from Portsmouth. Why, then, were they moved from Colchester to Exeter shortly before the time appointed for their embarkation at Portsmouth? Again, why was the Rifle Brigade sent to Devonport to relieve the 40th, which but a few months before had been sent from Portsmouth to Devonport. Why could not the 40th have been left at Portsmouth till their turn at Aldershot came, when the Rifles might have replaced them at Portsmouth without all this inconvenience to the troops and cost to the public?

DR. CONNEAU.—Dr. Conneau, physician to the Emperor, and one of the recently created batch of senators, was formerly secretary to the Emperor's father, Louis, King of Holland. Abandoning his desk for the study of medicine, he was appointed physician to Queen Hortense, and subsequently attached himself to the fortunes of Louis Napoleon, whom he accompanied on his famous descent on Boulogne, and was arrested and condemned with him. Having solicited and obtained the favour of being permitted to share the Prince's cell, he contributed mainly to his successful escape from the fortress of Ham. Madame Conneau is a prima donna of the Parisian salons, and is celebrated for the sweetness and the compass of her voice. Their eldest son is, as is well known, the intimate companion of the young Prince Imperial.

On Friday an inquest was held at the German Hospital, Dalston, on the body of a sailor, named Louis Gutzman, aged 33 years. Captain Karl Litz said that on Wednesday week the screw steamer *Olivia* was caught in a gale in the North Sea on a voyage from Danzig to London. A tremendous sea struck the ship, shivered the galley, which was strengthened with iron plates, to pieces, and the deceased was forced by the iron plates down upon the furnace. The sea-water was converted into steam by the fire in the furnace, and he was not only burnt by the plates but scalded by the hot steam. On the following Friday the *Olivia* arrived at London and the deceased was sent to the German Hospital, where he lingered until Wednesday last. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

THE BLOOD, THE BLOOD.—When the blood is impure the whole body suffers. Then come indigestion, lowness of spirits, loss of flesh, nervousness, and a general feeling of discomfort. A course of "THE BLOOD PURIFIER," OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S SASSAPARILLA acts specifically on the blood, purifying it of all vitiated humours. The digestion becomes easy, the spirits buoyant, the body regains its strength, and the mind its tranquillity. Sold by all druggists. Chief Depot, 131, Fleet-street. *Caution*—Get the red and blue wrappers with the Old Doctor's head in the centre; no other genuine.—[ADVT.]

MEN'S NOTIONS OF BEING BUSY.

We are perpetually told that in the economy of daily life it is the part of men to earn, and of women to spend. By consequence also, we are required to infer, that men are the industrious, women the comparatively idle part of the race.

A considerably extended observation with regard to the amount of occupation undertaken by men and women, and the amount of absorption in their work shown by each, has led us to the conclusion that the industry of men, taking it as a whole, is a quality vastly overrated in the estimation made of the sex. It is not within the scope of our present purpose to dwell upon the patience with which women apply themselves to the fulfilment of their daily duties, the unwearying industry which they bring to bear on the execution of tasks almost beyond their strength, the devotion with which they endeavour to carry out what they had laid down as their plan of action.

Our object now is to show some cause for the statement that men do not by any means work so hard as they seem to do, as they say they do, or as they would fain have credulous, confiding women believe they do.

Edwin, after breakfast, rushes off to some mysterious place of business—the City, his office, whatever he may choose to call it—and Angelina is left behind, plying the poor creature, who as she is taught, is about to toil (toil is the word used; it is expressive of prolonged and wearying exertions) to earn the means of subsistence for himself and his family. A great deal of Angelina's pity is wasted, and has been obtained altogether under false pretences. There is no doubt that, in the course of the hours which elapse between breakfast and dinner, the oppressed and overworked Edwin will have got through a certain amount of what he calls "business." He will have received his letters, and answered them more or less; he will have occupied himself about affairs more or less; but between the times thus taken up he will have found ample opportunity of doing a hundred other matters, which can hardly answer the designation of severe work.

The busiest of men find ample time to read the newspapers. Of course we shall be told, that to know the news of the day is part of the business of every man. How is a man to get on unless he has read the City article, and know all about Stocks? Granted; but this acquisition of knowledge proceeds in most cases farther, and involves an intimate knowledge of the latest thing in politics or Fenians, and the most recent case of police perjury, or "justice" justice. Business appointments and calls take up an enormous amount of time; and at the same time, afford room for an indefinite amount of what may mildly be termed intercommunication of ideas. Men will tell you they are so busy they hardly know what to do first; and, in doubt of the moment, will settle it by doing nothing, or next to it.

The principle on which men generally appear to be busy, is that best expressed by the maxim "Take it coolly." Undoubtedly, a press of work occasionally arises, and a good deal has to be got through in a comparatively short space of time. But what statements of overwork does it evoke! what groans of self-pity! what demands for the extension of sympathy towards the sufferers!

Generally "busy" men find plenty of time to chat, to read the papers, to write their notes, to stand about with their hands in their pockets—above all, to eat their lunch in comfort. "I assure you, my dear," says a man on his return home, "I have not had one spare minute all day." Probably he has not had a minute of perfect idleness, for in one occupation or another the day has been spent; but he has been about, and seen everything, and heard about everything; and, above all, he has been in no great hurry. The haste with which men rush through the City, or along the most crowded thoroughfares, is in most instances utterly delusive. They like to have the appearance of constant occupation, and walking at a rapid pace, or driving in a "hansom," conduces to the production of the idea, both in themselves and others.

This curious mode of being busy so as not to overfatigue themselves, finds men who practice it in all ranks and occupations of life. We saw it recently stated that the Chancellor of the Exchequer works twelve hours a day. If he does this amount of real, hard work with application, we can only say that we honour him as a brilliant exception to the rule, which holds good with regard to the generality of men. But of course, people expect much from Chancellors, and shining lights in similar high places. Government offices do not generally tax to any extreme extent the faculties of those who spend their business days there. To descend lower, can there be anywhere a more admirable example of not overdoing oneself, than is afforded by the ordinary shopkeeper, who is busy when he superintends his wares, and surveys the world from his shop door? Lower still, the comfortable way in which workmen go about their crafts is quite proverbial. Men working in the streets, pavements, masons, bricklayers, &c., are amusing to behold. Each operation is done with gravity and deliberation. There is no fussy expenditure of strength; and after each exertion there is a due and suitable repose taken, to recruit after the exhaustion incurred. They all seem to keep before them distinctly the fact, that "there will be a day after to-morrow."

We wonder if, in the new Reformed Parliament, from which such great things are expected, the pressure of business will make any member "greedy of work" propose to do away with the great holiday of the Derby Day. We need not fear that any such thing will happen. It would not be in the nature of men to forego such a splendid opportunity for being busy.

Men's fashions of being busy lead them to rush over half the country to shows and congresses, and to embrace all possible opportunities for dining and speech-making—modes of intense occupation, which are not without their mitigating advantages. They also lead men to attendance on exhibitions, to seeing all that is new, to forming part of street crowds, whenever there is an object to stare at. Such tendencies on the part of women would be set down to their inherent idleness and frivolity of character; but with men everything is but a part of the overwhelming business which they are anxious so conscientiously to discharge.

To be busy after the fashion of men, permits of considerable intervals between the efforts made; as a rule, even, calls for little exertion which is incompatible with a considerable amount of enjoyment. Many women, who are theoretically supposed to be idle, would be glad to be able to be busy according to men's customs.—*Queen*.

THE GALES.

The gales which have for the last few days been sweeping our coasts have occasioned great destruction of property and loss of life. We regret to hear that the Gorleston life-boat "Rescue," upset by coming in contact with a lugger on entering the harbour at Yarmouth and that 26 persons, including part of a wrecked crew, were drowned, only four being saved. It is said that the *Rescue* is a savage boat belonging to the beachmen at Gorleston, and that it is the same boat which capsized under similar circumstances two years ago, and with a like fatal result. Surely "life-boat" is a misnomer for such a vessel.

Amongst the many thrilling incidents, narrow escapes, and sad catastrophes with which the gale of Sunday night and subsequent days has filled the northern papers, there is one reported by the *Daily Express* of Newcastle worthy of especial notice. On Monday afternoon a small but powerful steam tug, the *Pearl*, which had been out in the Channel looking for vessels to assist, was observed to make for the Tyne. Again and again the breathless spectators on the shore thought she was lost, but breaker after breaker was weathered until just as she was rounding the end of the pier, a tremendous sea burst over her, and when she next came into view it was observed, to the astonishment of every one, that she was bottom uppermost. All hands were lost.

FUN OF THE WEEK.

PUNCH.

A DEFAULTING GLAZIER.—Mr. Glaisher is publishing letters about the star-showers of the 14th ult., which have been seen in Canada, and should have been seen here, but weren't. We call on Mr. Glaisher to repair "the windows of the dark," so that people may be able to see through them on such occasions. What is the use of keeping a Glaisher at the Greenwich Observatory if he won't attend to his business?

IN A WHISPER.—"No man is a hero to his valet," is an assertion of frequent occurrence. Has poor maligned man ever had the courage to hint that no woman is a heroine to her maid?

THE BEST THING OUT.—An aching tooth.

THE FACULTY OF ADVOCATES.—Speech.

EASILY SOLD.—Mr. Furrow: Susy and I be going up to Cattle Show, and Mr. Chaffer tells us we must get a removal licence from doctor.

RATING OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—One class of our charitable institutions is already the subject of very heavy rating—and that is our union-infirmaries.

A HORSE (MARINE).—The walrus.

ANOTHER DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE.—Old Crudginton, on being told that the Loveladies began to quarrel before the honeymoon was over, remarked that their behaviour only strengthened him in his opinion, that matrimony was like an English summer—"Three fine days and a thunderstorm."

FUN.

A CONUNDRUM, BY A VERY RUDE OLD PARTY.—Why is a lady's throat like an appendage to her watch?—Because it's a chatter-lane (châtelaine).

FAVoured BY LORD DUNDREARY.—Why is the six-horse roller at work in Hyde-park like an Ancient Briton?—Because it's "weaving the wool."

GIVE HIM HIS DUE.—It is altogether too absurd to say that a Man is not perfect—who is there who has not met with many who were perfect strangers, some who were perfect rascals, and not a few who were perfect fools?

IN-TEA-RESTING.—We wonder whether, now that the publicans have taken to selling tea, they retail a growth that is largely advertised as of good quality. If they do, we shall better understand Kingsley's line about "the bar and its Moming."

SOMETHING EXTER-ORDINARY in the year of grace 1867.—Bread and meat riots.

MUSICAL NOTE.—An eminent authority on musical antiquities assures us that he has the best possible reason to believe that the violin on which Tartini composed his remarkable "Réverie du Diable" was the only real and original fiddle-de-D—

A NOTE WITH "A HITCH" IN IT.—An actor may be said to resemble a sailor;—each is distinguished by his particular role.

FERS DE SOCIÉTÉ.—"The Glass of Fashion."

CASUAL SHELTER.—Well-informed and compassionate youth: It ain't no use yer vaitin' there, Guvner; they won't let yer in afore eight o'clock—it's agin the rules! (Dismay of lady and gentleman, who have taken shelter from the rain under the work-house portico.)

JUDY.

"DE GUSTIBUS," &c.—Little Puggles (after half an hour's "Volunteer" talk about Rifles.—"Well, after all's said and done, I must say I prefer a small bore."—Victimized Friend.—"Ah! Yes, very natural, can't say I do.")

A BRIGHT IDEA.—It has been suggested that it is because the Brights are "cotton people" that the people cotton to them. Ahem! Is it not possible that the influence of cotton might turn out to be bale-ful? Ritooral-li-tooral—steady!

THE FIRST MUSIC HALL.—When "Polly Phenius" sang out at the Strand.

OLD GREEN says he has heard of ships' barnacles, and supposes they are worn in order that the vessels may be able to go to sea all right.

UNDOUBTEDLY.—A capital motto for "a weakly journal of satire" bearing a domestic weapon on its title-page—"Mangling done here."

WHAT IS THE BEST REMEDY for a flagging of spirits?—A flagon of wine.

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"—Mr. William Brough calls his new comedy, at the Strand, "Kind to a Fault." Considering the really sterling merits of the piece, the author need not crave from his audience the indulgence implied by the title!

SIMPLY ABSURD.—Was Alderman Bury ever Lord Mayor of London?

AN OXFORD MAN.—Mackney.

A CAUTION.—Don't be too anxious to solve a conundrum.—Judy knows a man who got two black eyes in endeavouring to find out "the difference between a man and a woman fighting in the street."

WHEN A PERSON WELL REPLENISHES A FIRE, HOW DOES IT FEEL?—Grateful(!).

A DRY REMARK.—"Let's liquor."

A FACT.—Young Lady (to our own Illustrator).—"And how is it possible that the Artists who draw for these Comic Papers can form correct notions of Society? I am told that they mix only with the lowest of the low." [Our Artist feels quite enlightened.]

TOMAHAWK.

WORM OR TIMOROUS?—Really it is most plucky of Miss Braddon to bear the brunt of the attacks on Cribbington White rather than give up the name of her contributor. But is there a man on the face of the *Globe* dastardly enough to allow that?

HOW TO GRILL BONES.—The *Danae*, sister ship to the Amazon iron-clad ram, is under orders for the West Coast of Africa. The Government has not perhaps been yet informed that the heat is above the average at Sierra Leone, or they would know that an iron-clad becomes a floating stove in such waters, and if our sailors must be broiled why not do it genteelly on a gridiron at once?

MR. BERNAL OSBORNE, M.P. for Nottingham, actually made a speech on the Abyssinian debate, which had more sense than buffoonery in it. Is this a sign of the times?

MESSRS. CLEGG, COFFEE, and CANHAM, the deputation who are now as celebrated as the three donkeys of Dusseldorf, were received at Windsor with the utmost courtesy; an elegant periphrasis, we presume, for what certainly was a most appropriate compliment, Windsor soap.

IRELAND'S WRONG.—The Right to murder.

OUT OF RESPECT for public opinion (as interpreted on Clerkenwell green and in the *Morning Star*), Madame Tussaud has changed the name of "The Temple of Fame," in which all distinguished murderers looked for a niche, from the "Chamber of Horrors" to the "Chamber of Martyrs."

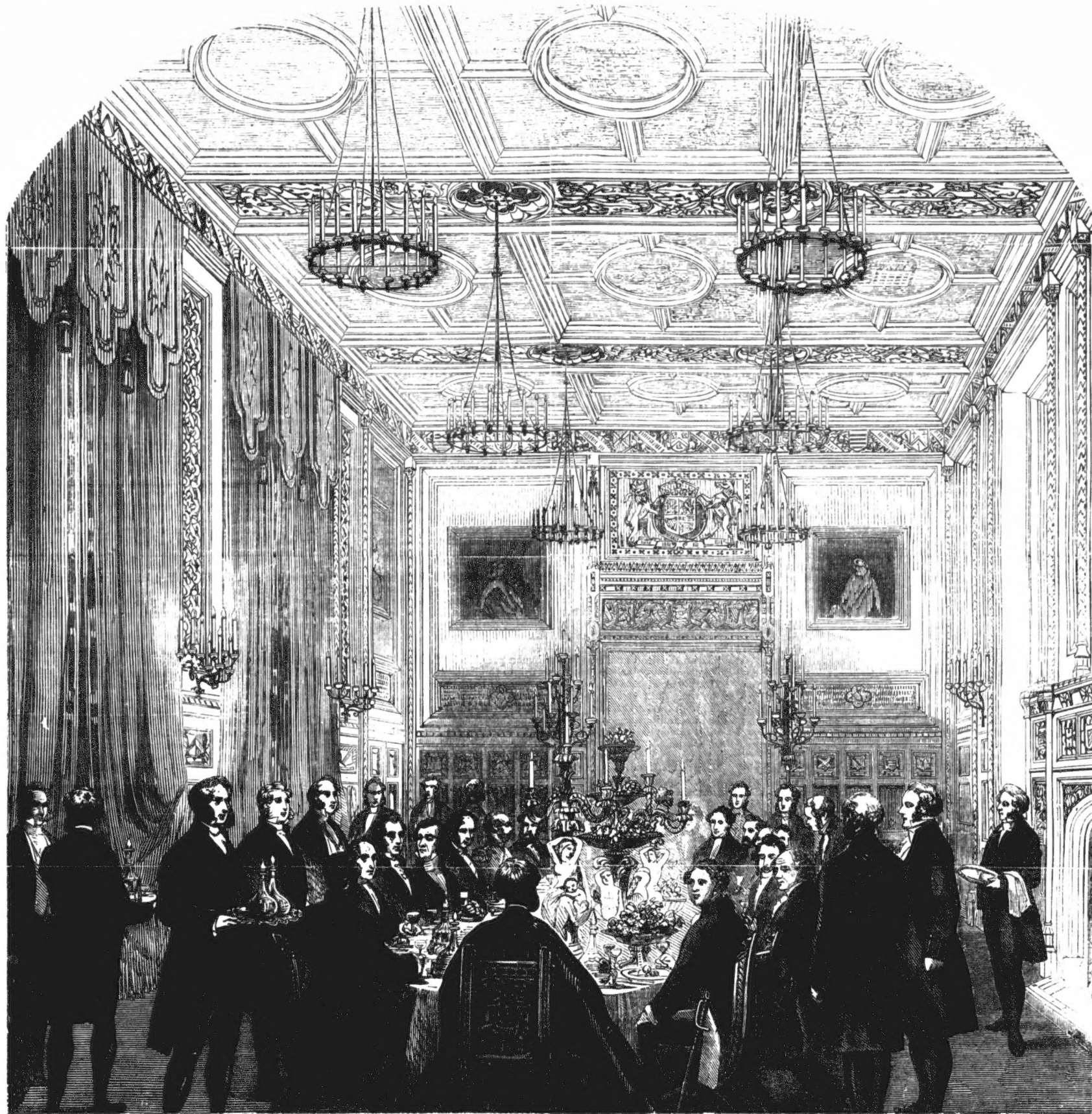
WE HOPE that the Duchess of Queensberry does not intend her munificent gift of £100 to the widows and children of the murdered (?) Fenians as a precedent; or else we may look for a new sort of self-sacrifice on the part of poor y-stricken husband—they will commit a crime in order to provide for their family. This is a sort of moral economy which we do not wish to see prevalent.

THE DONKEY'S PARADISE.—Clerkenwell Green.

ET TU BRUTE?—We are told that a stag at one of the late meets of Her Majesty's Stagholders, was named "Lord Dundreary," cut of compliment to Mr. Sothorn, who was present. The poor animal was intelligent enough to jump into the river and drown himself, preferring suicide to being like his prototype, run to death.



THE CITY AND HARBOUR OF CANTON, THE SCENE OF THE LATE DREADFUL HURRICANE.



THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—THE SPEAKER'S PARLIAMENTARY DINNER.

The Poisoner's Daughter: A TALE OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

CHAPTER XXI.—(CONTINUED.)

A PORTRAIT SAVES ST. LUKE.

He now placed his eye to the keyhole of the door opening into St. Luke's sleeping apartment. He could see that the room was well furnished, but no more. He placed his ear to the keyhole and listened.

"There is some one sleeping in there, and breathing heavily," he thought. "Still, as I may meet some one who might recognise me before I could force my way to the street, I will use this surplice, this wig, and this mask, without the leave of Master Simon Brown."

Having disguised himself, he entered the colonel's room, as has been already related.

"That face is astonishingly like the face of the apprentice," he thought, as his eyes flashed with passion. "But the whole forehead of the apprentice and one cheek were covered with a blood-red birth-mark. This man is pale and clear-skinned, too, while the complexion of the apprentice was dark and sallow. The hair of the apprentice, unless he wore a wig, was black and curly—this man's hair is almost light, a light yellow, at least, and close-cropped."

Looking about in much doubt, his eyes fell upon the uniform of the colonel. He started as he recognised the insignia of the owner's rank. He lifted a glove from the floor, and read written upon its wrist, or rather embroidered upon it in gold thread—

"Raymond St. Luke, Col. 18th Regt."
"Still," thought Sir Edward, "this sleeper may not be Col. St. Luke. I do not wish to slay the wrong man. He may be Simon Brown, but of that I am not sure—if I was sure of either, I'd drive my dirk to his heart."

He drew nearer and nearer to the place, until he could decipher the letters and crest engraved upon St. Luke's seal ring.

"R. St. L." and the head of a fox with a dagger in its mouth," mused Sir Dudley, knitting his brows. "'R. St. L.' means Raymond St. Luke, but why does he use the family crest of my family? The fox and dagger is the crest of the Dudleys of Northumberland—my own crest, here engraved upon my own ring," he thought, as he glanced upon his seal ring.

"But there is no doubt in my mind that this is St. Luke, and I must accomplish my oath to slay him the instant I know him." He drew his dirk and raised it. St. Luke, though breathing heavily from over-exertion, slept profoundly, as unconscious of the danger which menaced him as the sofa beneath him.

"If it should not be Raymond St. Luke," thought Sir Edward, hesitating and lifting his eyes.

His gaze now rested for the first time upon the portrait of Madam St. Luke.

So great and sudden was his surprise, or rather amazement, upon his beholding this portrait, that he uttered a sharp cry and let fall his dagger and his mask.

The cry, and the dagger as it fell upon the face of the sleeper, awoke him, and Raymond St. Luke leaped to his feet and had his sword in his hand, with all that remarkable agility praised by Dick of Kent.

"Ha! Sir Richard Dudley. Playing assassin!" exclaimed St. Luke, as he recognised the dark and austere features of the baronet.

"Who is that? Her name?" demanded Sir Edward, pointing at the portrait with both hands open in amazement.

"That? It is my mother, Madam St. Luke," replied the colonel.

"Your mother; but her first name, Edith?"

"Edith, Edith," repeated Sir Edward, as he recoiled from the portrait with anger upon his brow and face. "Yes, it is Edith. Oh, disgrace, wanton, I hate you as I hated you when—but, young man," he continued, turning sharply upon the colonel, with his peculiar fiery rapidity, "is she your mother?"

"She is my mother," replied St. Luke, haughtily, yet cautiously keeping his rapier elevated for instant defence.

"You can swear to that?" demanded Sir Edward quickly.

"I believe it; I am sure of it; I know it," said the colonel.

"And you are Colonel Raymond St. Luke, the butcher Round-head colonel at Worcester?"

"I am Colonel Raymond St. Luke."

"And also the pretended apprentice, Simon Brown, the traitor?" continued Sir Edward, still more bitterly.

"I was the apprentice, but I am now, and was before, Colonel Raymond St. Luke. So yield, old man."

"Stop!" said Sir Edward, in a husky voice, in which many strong emotions seemed contending for the mastery. "Do not approach me, young man, with the original of that portrait for your mother. Great heaven! I do not wonder that you are Raymond St. Luke, the butcher of Worcester's bloody field, nor that you are Simon Brown, the deliberate spy and traitor. And your father—where is he? Does he live? Does he hide his disgraced name in that of St. Luke. Tell him from me that St. Devil or St. Satan were a better name for him."

The taunts and scorn of the fiery old cavalier had not infuriated the Parliamentary colonel, who believed that the life of the speaker was in his hands, for already the loud speech of the baronet had alarmed the footmen in the entrance hall below, and their footsteps were heard bounding up the stairs.

But the last words of the speaker seemed to declare that he knew the father of the colonel, and as St. Luke was uninformed, though ever anxious upon that subject, he opened the door which led into the hall, and said to the footmen, who were about to run in—

"Remain below. If I need you, I will call you."

The footmen did not stop to question the glitter of his eyes—but hurried away to resume their stations below.

St. Luke closed the door and addressed Sir Edward, who had not moved from the centre of the room, though he had drawn his sword on hearing the approach of the footmen.

"Sir Edward, you have insulted my parents, and it is not pro-

bable that you will leave this house alive unless I see proper to allow it—"

"Young man," broke in the impetuous cavalier, and trembling with rage so that the blade of his sword quivered like a reed in the wind, while his swarthy features grew white with suppressed wrath, "I have made two solemn oaths—one to slay that man who cried 'No quarter for Royalists!' at Worcester, Raymond St. Luke, and the other to devote my life to accomplish the death of him who betrayed us last night, Simon Brown; and as the names belong to one man, to you, but for that portrait you would be lying dead upon that couch. Attack me, then. I desire it. But unless you attack me, I cannot now raise my hand against you. Attack me, baseborn Roundhead. Attack! Attack! Call in your knives! Attack!"

The old cavalier's grey beard and moustache bristled with rage, his dark and deep-set eyes flamed like coals of fire, and as he shouted "Attack me!" he stamped fiercely and threw himself on guard.

"The man is mad!" thought St. Luke, whose icy blood disdained to boil with sympathetic heat. "That portrait? The portrait of my mother? Why should the sight of that have restrained his arm? There lies his dirk—he held me in his power. There is a mystery here which I must try to solve. His life? What care I for his life? He does not stand in my way in any scheme of mine. His enmity? He is an outlawed man, and can hardly show his face without being arrested—"

"Will you attack, base-born?" roared the enraged cavalier, "that I may keep my vows and be forgiven for keeping them."

"You call me baseborn, Sir Edward," said St. Luke, in a quiet tone, and with a steady eye, "and must have some reason for it. Was I not born in lawful wedlock?"

"No! If you are ignorant, as perhaps you are, know that you are base-born!"

"And my father, Sir Edward—who is he?" demanded St. Luke, quickly.

"She has never told you then?" cried Sir Edward, pointing at the portrait, as if surprised.

"Never!"

"And you do not know?"

"I do not, except that his name was that which I bear—Raymond St. Luke," replied the colonel.

"No wonder she hid the fact, and yet she was not ever shameless and defiant!" said Sir Edward, as if to himself, and then eagerly, "If I tell you, young man, will you attack me? I demand it in return for the information. You will instantly cross swords with me, St. Luke!"

"Since you desire to fall by my sword rather than by the headman," said St. Luke, calmly, "I will grant you the favour."

"Grant me the favour!" exclaimed the haughty old baronet in high scorn. "The favour will be from me, scoundrel. Your father, whose features I see in your knavish, villainous face—your father was Wild Redburn, of Essex. Now attack!"

"Wild Redburn! Old man, you have lied!" exclaimed St. Luke, no longer cool, but blazing with the tiger-like ferocity which ever crouched in his heart, and springing to the combat with the activity of a leopard.

Their swords clashed, and in an instant the combat was sharp and fierce. The wrist of the old cavalier was strong and elastic as steel, and his arm was as rigid as a bar of iron. No longer furious and foaming with rage, but grown grim and rigid in feature from the moment that his sword touched that of the colonel, he was as motionless as a statue of bronze, except in hand, wrist, and eye, whose strength and quickness baffled even the juggling sword tricks of his dangerous foe.

St. Luke, surprised to find this wrist of steel whose single sword seemed to fill the air with rapiers, and to weave with lightning-like velocity a network of impenetrable mail around its wielder, moved rapidly around the cavalier, seeking to confuse his defence by assailing first this, then that side, putting thrusts which had seldom failed to rid him of his antagonists.

But Sir Edward, who had heard of the extraordinary skill and cunning of St. Luke with the rapier, was vigilant and cool in his defence, waiting until his enemy's strength should begin to falter ere he assumed the offensive.

The clash and click of the rapiers, had been heard by the footmen in the hall, but they had received their orders not to go to the aid of their master until he should call for them.

"This fellow is made of steel," thought Sir Edward, waiting in vain for some sign of waning vigour in the attack of his foe, and beginning to feel the effects of his own long and late bruises.

Great drops of sweat began to cluster on the beetling brows of the old cavalier, used as he was to long continued sword-play and toughening hardship.

The clear blue eyes of the Puritan glittered as keenly as when he began. There was no sign of moisture upon his pale and paper-like forehead. His breath he still inhaled through his nostrils; his thin, firm lips were closed; while Sir Edward began to draw his breath through his set teeth fast and hot.

"I fear this devil will slay me!" thought the old cavalier, as he watched for a chance to attack instead of being forced to continue a defence which threatened to lower his arm. "I must close with him quickly or I am a dead man."

But before the wished-for opportunity presented itself the door of the room was thrown violently open, and Madam St. Luke, grasping a rapier with a grip and poise which proved her familiarity with the weapon, rushed in.

No doubt it was her intention when she entered to attack whoever might be combating with her son, for her always fierce eyes sparkled with fury, and her large coarse features blazed with resolution. But as soon as her glance fell upon Sir Edward Dudley, whose borrowed wig had long since fallen off, she screamed—

"Great Heaven! Stop, my son! Raymond, you know not what you do! Kill me rather than harm him!" and, rushing forward, she threw herself between the combatants.

CHAPTER XXII.

THE ALCHEMIST AT WORK.

COLONEL ST. LUKE fell back, amazed less by the interposition of his mother than by the exclamation—"Kill me rather than harm him!" and lowering his rapier's point seemed to await an explanation.

Sir Edward Dudley tossed off the gown he had assumed in the library, and after a short but scornful stare at the face of the lady, folded his arms with his sword upon his breast, and calmly awaited anything that might happen.

Madam St. Luke, who was richly robed and plumed, as if just returned from a public ride or promenade, let fall her sword as soon as the strife ceased, and clasping her hands, knelt not far from the baronet, and said but one word, but said that several times—

"Forgive! Forgive!"

"Whom?" demanded the old cavalier, in a harsh tone, full of contempt. "Forgive whom? That tiger's whelp, who would have slain me in another moment, or forgive his dam, the tigress? Silence! Not a word, woman! He does not know, and for so much I am indebted. Raymond St. Luke, am I a prisoner of State or shall I fight my way forth as an outlawed conspirator?"

"He shall be neither, my son!" exclaimed Madam St. Luke, rising from her feet quickly, as if stung by the scorn of the baronet. "Let him pass out of my house freely, I command it."

"But he is an attainted traitor," said St. Luke. "He is more—he is an assassin who plotted to slay the Lord Protector while his highness slept. He was the brain and heart of the plot—"

"There you have lied," interrupted the rough old cavalier,

sharply. "The heart of the plot I was, I admit it, for killing is no murder; but the brain of the plot, as you know, traitor, who knew and discovered all, was Reginald Brame, the alchemist, who no doubt has shared with you, his intended apprentice, the reward paid by the usurper to all plot-discoverers."

"You do not know Reginald Brame by any other name, then?" asked the colonel, eagerly.

"By any other name? No; though doubtless he has a score, which he puts off and on as you did that of Simon Brown. Reginald Brame? I never saw the man except through his dusty shop windows—cunning knave, he and you deceived us all. But what more could come from a poisoner and the son of Herbert Redburn?"

"Ah! he has told that!" gasped Madam St. Luke, pale with passion, and pacing the room angrily. "Raymond, it is false! You are not the son of Herbert Redburn. See that this cavalier leaves the house immediately, or, God forgive me! my anger will master my duty."

"Your duty!" said the baronet, with a sneer of terrible bitterness, which broke into a harsh and scornful laugh. "You are late in the day in that matter, madam."

Madam St. Luke, whose temper was as fierce as that of the old cavalier, with a strong effort restrained what her rage prompted her to say, and stepping very close to him said, in a low and determined tone—

"He does not know, and you do not wish him and the world to know all, Sir Edward Dudley; but, unless you depart this instant, I will tell him all, and by night all London shall hoot it in the street. I have been content, so far, to hide my name and yours, but do not taunt me too far, Sir Edward."

"By what right does he, the base-born knave, the child of Wild Redburn, of Essex, wear the crest of my family upon his seal-ring, as if he were the legitimate heir of Dudley Manor?" demanded Sir Edward. "Woman, since I may depart unmolested, I will go; but if ever he or I meet again, see to it that no son of Herbert Redburn wears my family crest upon his beggarly fist."

Having spoken these words in a low and menacing tone, the baronet darted a look of hate toward St. Luke, and left the room.

But, despite his bitter feelings, his prudence in flight did not desert him, and as he passed through the hall after descending the stairs, he caught up a military cloak and a Cromwellian hat from a table and quickly placed them upon his person, drawing the folds of the cloak up to his eyes, which, but for their glittering fierceness, would have been concealed in the deep shadow of the tall crowned, and wide-brimmed beaver.

He strode towards the door, saying, "Open the door, you knaves," as the porter and two footmen advanced to question his right to the cloak and hat, and to dispute his egress.

"There has been a clashing of the horns of two bulls even of Bashan," said the tall and sanctimonious porter placing himself between the baronet and the door, and laying his hand upon the pistol in his belt. "A clamour of battle, sir, and I would fain learn the whereof and the result. Neither do I, being one of the meekest of the meek, understand this seizing of spoils of cloaks and beavers—"

"Open the door, and let the gentleman pass," cried Madam St. Luke, from above, as she looked down into the hall.

The porter at once obeyed, though he eyed the baronet sharply as he went out; and on perceiving that Madam St. Luke had withdrawn from sight, clapped his hat upon his head and hurried after him, muttering—

"There may be gold and honour in this matter, for I verily believe the man is Sir Edward Dudley, for whose capture, dead or alive, promotion and five hundred pounds are offered."

Madam St. Luke had returned to the presence of the young colonel, who had thrown himself into a chair, and sat moodily gazing at the portrait which had saved his life. There was much displeasure in his eyes as he turned them from the portrait to its original as she approached him.

"Mother," he said, "I have forborne to pry into those secrets which you have always seemed anxious that I should not learn, but it is due to me, as your son, that I should know why Sir Edward Dudley—"

"There, there," interrupted his mother, as she tossed off her rich mantle and plumed hat, "that is enough of that."

"You have not heard me through mother," he replied, calmly. "If you refuse to hear what I have to say, and to explain what I wish to know, of course I cannot force your attention, yet I will learn."

"You will? And how?"

"By no longer respecting the veil of secrecy which you have thrown over your past, or rather your early life."

"You may learn unpleasant things, my son."

"Not more unpleasant than I suppose. Not more unpleasant than was said by Sir Edward," he replied moodily. "He said I was the son of Wild Redburn—that is, of the alchemist, Reginald Brame. Wait, I must be heard," he said, with a quick gesture for silence as Madam St. Luke was about to speak. "Sit down, mother, and sit near, for we may as well understand each other now as at any other time."

Madam St. Luke, whose fiery nature ever became mild under the firm calmness of her son, sat down upon the sofa, saying resignedly—

"Well, so let it be. Speak on."

"Mother, you gave the lie to the assertion of the baronet," he continued; "yet that may have been caused by anger—for anger makes rashness of speech. I know that you hate Reginald Brame, and that since the day when you discovered, from my description of his person, little over a month ago, that the alchemist was Herbert Redburn, of Essex, you have plotted his ruin. Why?"

"Go on, Raymond. I may reply presently," said his mother, over whose face a malignant expression had dropped like a dark veil.

"It is four or five months, mother, since you left Paris and purchased this house—Paris, where you had lived for several years, and where you said you made much money—"

"With these, my son," she remarked, drawing a pack of cards and several dice from a pocket.

"I have never questioned your right nor your ways in the matter of making money," he continued, callously, though the words and action of his mother declared so shamelessly that she was a female gambler. "That is your affair, not mine. But your secrets I have so closely respected that, when you re-appeared in London, four or five months ago, I made no allusion to that which has weighed upon my brain and heart from my early boyhood up. And what a boyhood! Wandering from England to France, from France to Spain, and from country to country with you, whose mode of life often forced you to fly from the officers of justice."

Madam St. Luke's features expressed not remorse, but anger; yet she made no reply, holding her dark eyes with a fierce gaze upon the cards in her hand as she shuffled them restlessly.

"Sometimes you were this, then that, but always not in good repute," he went on. "You were a fortune-teller, a mountebank, a juggler, an actress, a fencing master—as often in the garb of a man as in the dress of a woman. As I grew up I became weary and disgusted, for I felt an ambition for higher things. I returned to England, a boy in feature, but a man in years; a skillful swordsman; and I found money and promotion in the tricks of the rapier which you taught me—that was nearly ten years ago. I entered the Puritan army, and rose to the rank of colonel, by brevet. I am now full colonel, and on the way to promotion. I had almost forgotten you—"

"But I had not you, my son, or all your skill with the sword would never have raised one so young in years as well as appear-

ance to the rank you possess in the army. My gold smoothed your way."

"I knew that I had a secret friend," he said, "and I suspected that you were that friend. No matter, I gained rank, name, and position as a soldier and officer—men look at me and wonder that a boy should be a colonel, but I know that I must be nearly thirty years of age. Well, you suddenly appear in London, purchase this house, inform me that a plot has been made to assassinate the Protector, and that Charles Stuart would probably venture into London—that if you and I could overthrow the plot, and catch the exiled Prince, the sum of thirty thousand pounds would be ours—"

"Yours, my son. I would have claimed nothing but thanks," interrupted his mother, rattling the dice in her hand.

"Thanks, then," he said, quietly. "I learned from you that Reginald Brame, an alchemist, would have something to do with the intended plot—that you had learned in France or Holland—"

"I ever found it to my advantage to discover important secrets," interrupted Madam St. Luke, "for I sometimes sold my knowledge at high prices. Yes, I learned in Holland that there was a plot afoot, and that Reginald Brame was to be either an informed or ignorant instrument. I little thought that Reginald Brame was Herbert Redburn—but go on, my son."

"I knew Reginald Brame by repute, when you mentioned his name," he resumed, for I had met Lenora Brame at the house of Secretary John Milton, and her beauty had attracted my attention. To watch Reginald Brame and the suspected plot, I became his pretended apprentice. Your ingenuity disguised my face and form. I forced myself upon Reginald Brame as a chief in the plot as soon as he attempted to use me as a mere uninformed go-between and deliverer of cabalistic messages. I described him to you, and you exclaimed, 'Great Heavens! he must be Wild Redburn!' and from that moment you entered eagerly into new schemes."

"For your advantage, my son."

"For your own gratification as much," he replied, "for you said that Herbert Redburn had injured you too deeply to be forgiven."

"I saw his pretended daughter, Lenora," said Madam St. Luke; "and I knew instantly, from her resemblance to Lady Eleanor Redburn, lost wife of the present Duke of Langford, that Lenora must be the daughter of Lady Eleanor. I knew it from the remarkable resemblance in form and feature, and from the fact that I knew that Herbert Redburn had stolen that child while an infant. There was another child, a boy, the twin-brother of Lenora, but I suppose he died, or was murdered by Herbert Redburn. I knew he had both children in his possession at one time."

"Yes, so you told me, mother, and you plotted to win for me the love or the hand of Lenora, the unknown and lost daughter of the Duke of Langford."

A servant now rapped at the door and entered, bearing a salver loaded with rare fruits, the whole surmounted by a bunch of grapes, the delightful perfume of which instantly filled the room."

"From the Lady Claypole, sir, with the request that Colonel Raymond St. Luke will keep the silver salver as a token of her appreciation of his services last night in protecting the life of the Lord Protector," said the footman, who was clothed in the livery of Lady Claypole, the favourite daughter of Oliver Cromwell."

"The warmest thanks of Colonel St. Luke to the noble Lady Claypole. He will pay his thanks in person as soon as possible," said St. Luke, whose eyes glittered less with appreciation of the honour conferred upon him than of the value of the rich and massive salver.

The footman placed it upon the table near St. Luke, and withdrew.

(To be continued.)

THE CAB DIFFICULTY.

The *Telegraph* urges that the principle of free trade shall be applied to the supply of cab locomotion, and that it shall be guarded from abuse by a system of registration. Before a cabman is permitted to apply for hire, he may fairly be required to give some proof of his fitness for the post. He should show that he knows something about driving, that he is able to read names on the walls of our streets, and that he is a man of decent character. Such requisitions would undoubtedly disqualify a large number from pursuing the trade, but they would raise the position and reputation of the body. When these conditions were fulfilled, the owner, whether he happened to be the driver or not, should fix his own rate of charge per mile or per hour. These rates should be inscribed outside the cabs in some conspicuous position; and at night they might be indicated easily enough by the use of lamp-glasses of different colours. In order to avoid the possibility of extortion on the part of the drivers, in case of any sudden demand for cabs on a wet night or otherwise, the rate of fares charged should be certified by a document fixed inside the cab, and provided with a Government stamp. The public always loses in the long run by driving a hard bargain, and it will be a serious mistake if our authorities disregard the complaints which are now made, and insist upon the carrying of lamps, without entering on the grievances, whether real or alleged, which render the cabmen so hostile to the introduction of a beneficial reform.

MR. JACOB BRIGHT.

MR. JACOB BRIGHT appears to entertain the popular delusion that a large town is necessarily entitled to send a greater number of representatives to Parliament than one of narrower limits and smaller census. Such would undoubtedly be the case if the inhabitants were separated by a diversity of interests and pursuits, but not otherwise. If the staple manufacture of a town be cotton goods, it little matters if ten thousand or one hundred thousand individuals are so employed. There is but one interest common to all, and which should fairly be represented by only one member. On the other hand, if the industry of any particular town comprise many branches, such as the manufacture of agricultural implements as well as of cotton goods, or linen, or woollen-stuffs, it is plain that there are several and even partially antagonistic interests to be protected and represented, and consequently justice demands that they should be confided to more than one representative. It is not so much numbers as the exponents of numbers that should be represented. Population alone is not by any means a fair title for extended representation. Brains are to be represented rather than bodies.

A FINEAN funeral procession passed through the city of Cork on Sunday evening. The crowds along the route were dense. The police and military were held in reserve in barracks. A hearse, drawn by six horses, and three mourning coaches, were in the procession. Four thousand men, one thousand children, and two thousand women are calculated to have comprised the procession.

MR. FINLAN.—The Duke of Sutherland stated, at a dinner given to his grace a few days since by the 20th Middlesex Volunteers, that Mr. Finlan, the orator who has lately been distinguishing himself by his exertions on behalf of the memory of the Fenian convicts, occupies the position of junior counsel to the Judge and Jury Society, a convivial institution holding its meetings (or lately holding them) at the Coalhole Tavern, Strand. The Duke is doubtless good authority on the point; but we understand that Mr. Finlan only attends the Judge and Jury Society in the intervals of his business, which is that of a french-polisher.

THE DRAWING ROOM.

THE LATEST FASHIONS.

I AM about to redeem the promise given in my last letter, and supply your readers with ample details of the toilettes worn at the opening of the French Chambers. The ceremony is looked upon by the stronger sex, not only in France but in Europe, as a grand political event; but there remains a vast number of people belonging to the feminine world who wait for it anxiously, regarding it as the occasion when the Court shows what fashions have been decided upon and definitely adopted. A great many elegantes are invariably present, and whilst the Emperor is descending aloud on various important topics, and men are hanging breathlessly on his words, hoping and fearing what comes next, the fairer portion of his audience, I have not the least doubt, are curiously observing their neighbours' toilettes, and making laws for the future, which Fashion will enforce quite as strictly as will the Legislative Body those uttered by the Imperial lips.

One important item deserves especial notice. We have all been under the delusion that crinoline was dying—indeed, in some instances that it had failed away completely; but nothing of the kind. At the opening of the French Chambers crinoline flourished as large as ever. The Empress seemed to have baskets below her waist, so large was her crinoline round the hips. After wearing our skirts plain and flatless round the top, fitting the figure like those worn in the days of the Empress Josephine, we find that suddenly the puffed-out drapery of Marie Antoinette's days is again to be fashionable. The Empress wore for the opening of Parliament Marie Antoinette's two favourite colours—pale grey and ruby. Madame Lebrun painted the unfortunate queen in a toilette composed of these identical hues.

The Empress Eugenie's dress was of such a pale shade of grey that many mistook it for white. The skirt was brocaded silk, covered with laurel leaves in the faintest and most delicate shade of grey; the lower part was trimmed with claret velvet—the popular colour called vin de Bordeaux. The back of the tunic was decorated with an enormous bow and wide ends of claret velvet. The bodice was trimmed on the shoulders and sleeves with narrow bands of rich Russian sable, and a black lace Marie Antoinette fichu was crossed over the Empress's chest. The tiny bonnet was of pale grey felt; its dimensions were so small that all the back hair was visible; at the left side there was an aigrette fastening down a claret-coloured feather.

Princess Mathilde wore a bouton d'or or gold-coloured satin dress, with a redingote to match, and both were trimmed with bands of dark Russian sable. The bonnet was white, with a bird of paradise at the side.

The Princess Murat's dress was pearl-grey satin, decorated with exquisite white lace sewn on plain; a point d'Alençon shawl and a fanchon bonnet, with point d'Alençon lappets crossing under the chin, and fastened there with an exquisite pearl brooch.

Mme. Aguado, who now replaces Mme. de Latour-Maubourg in the Empress's household, wore a white moire dress covered with magnificent white lace appliques between two rows of jet, a demi-adjuste to match, with a sash above it.

Mme. de Virginie was in blue satin, trimmed with rouleaux to match; a white lace shawl, a white tulie Trianon bonnet, with a aigrette and blue feather at the left side.

Amongst the spectators I remarked the Countess de la V—— in a striped Empress-blue silk dress, a tunic simulated on the skirt with wide cross-cut satin bands laid on to form deep vandykes; a wide blue satin sash bordered with rich gimp to match; a blue bonnet fringed with white marabout feathers.

The Marchioness de G—— wore a mauve satin dress, the skirt bordered with a fluted flounce of the same; a mauve velvet redingote fastened at the side, and bordered with grebe; a white satin bonnet, likewise bordered all round with grebe. Another lady, an Englishwoman of great beauty, wore a pale apricot satin dress also trimmed with grebe, the effect of which was particularly pleasing.

By these details it will be gathered that satin is in high favour at present. The Empress is so partial to it, that she wears it on almost every occasion where such a material is appropriate. For her feté day her dress was pale pink satin (the shade called Rosee), covered with white gauze. The border of the satin skirt was trimmed with white lace; the gauze skirt was looped up in festoons by means of several rouleaux of white satin, interrupted at certain but regular distances by white satin bows. The bodice was almost entirely concealed with a triple row of diamonds and long diamond drops. The Empress wore on the left side of her head an enormous emerald, surrounded with diamonds.

I was present at the last representations both at the Opera and the Italiens, and recognis'd many well-known faces; for the Parisian public seem once more to be taking possession of their accustomed seats in both these fashionable and popular houses, which of late have been invaded by foreigners from all parts of the world. Mme. Patti wears a very original toilette in Don Desiderio. The first skirt is white muslin, and it has a deep Marie Antoinette flounce round the hem; the second muslin skirt is trimmed with a plait or tress of black satin; a black satin ribbon is thrown upon the skirt, commencing at the side, and continued along until it joins the sash at the back. The sash is also black satin, but the ribbon is much wider than that at the sides. The bodice is ornamented with bouillons, which are separated by lines of lace insertion; there are narrow black satin braces across the shoulders, and the side pieces and back are likewise black satin; this gives the bodice all the effect of a very open jacket. The headpiece is a jet band, and the hair at the back is arranged as a large chignon of ringlets.

I have seen a few of these Pompadour costumes worn in the streets since the return of the fashionable world to Paris. They are made both in faille and in satin, and black is usually selected in preference to colour; they are short, so that the boots, which have of late become objects of special care and attention, are by no means lost sight of. I saw the Princess Murat walking in the Tuileries gardens a few days ago dressed in one of these Pompadour costumes. It was arranged as follows:—A black satin petticoat bordered with a flounce plaited à la vieille; a Pompadour skirt very full round the hips, and trimmed with exquisitely fine black guipure; a high bodice, the square cut being simulated by a guipure insertion, lined with pale yellow satin; similar trimmings on the sleeve; a round black felt hat, with a small plume of yellow feathers at the side, and a black velvet bow with long wide ends at the back; black velvet boots, with a bracelet of Astrachan fur round the tops; an Astrachan muff, studded with extremely small tufts of yellow feathers. This stylish costume was completed with a black satin Polonoise, lined with fine Astrachan. These outdoor coverings, which are made full and with wide sleeves, are much used for driving, for they are warm and comfortable. They are, in fact, called Polonoises de voiture; as they would be found too heavy for walking costumes.

I never remember so many fur linings as I have already remarked this winter; they are to be seen everywhere. The chilly Parisians are even wearing them at theatres, operas, concerts, &c. They are adopting a jacket called the "Cendrillon," which is made in either blue, celise, or ruby velvet, and lined with crinoline; the form of it is high at the back and very open in front; the sleeves are long and sufficiently wide to allow of its being slipped on and off easily.

The "Cendrillon" jacket is likewise worn en grande toilette always providing the velvet of which it is made is light in colour it is not suitable for a sortie de bal, as the front being open the chest and throat are left exposed to the cold night air.—Queen

THE GARDEN.

HARDY FLOWER GARDEN.

ROSES grown in pots and intended for early forcing may now be pruned. The main point to be kept in view during the operation is to secure by all legitimate means, the finest, firmest, and hence the best ripened wood upon each plant. Something will oftentimes have to be sacrificed, for the form it is intended the plants should assume when in flower, though, fine blooms in abundance being the main desideratum, too much ought not to be sacrificed in that direction. It will be generally found that roses grown in pots, like all other things, and especially Teas, will have formed two or three strong "runaway" shoots. Now, any such, if well ripened—especially if Teas—are the most likely of all others to produce noble blooms. Hence, if compatible with the known strength of the plant, and the not over-improvement of the smaller flowering sprays, they should by all means be sparingly pruned back and retained. Others of the same class, found later in the season, if not thoroughly ripened, had better be removed bodily by cutting them clean away at the point from whence they issue from the old wood. When the plants have been pruned, it will be advisable to remove as much of the old soil from the surface of the balls as possible without unnecessarily injuring the roots. Replace it with a good rich mixture of loam and decomposing manure, ramming it down firmly, and giving all a soaking of water, if the roots are in need of such; afterwards place the plants under shelter, and where they will enjoy perfect immunity alike from excessive rains and frosts. Where, as in the case of intended alterations, it is necessary to remove roses, this may now be done without risk. Be particular not to allow the roots, however, to become dried on the exterior surface by exposure to the air, while such operations are in progress. Regarding the planting of roses generally I hope to have something to say at a later date. Proceed with any intended alterations in the form of varying the plans of flower-beds, &c. Whilst the weather remains open it will be well to conclude, where possible, these and similar undertakings, in which the removal of turf is concerned.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Do not risk Lettuce and Endive longer in the open ground if fit for use, and any form of protection exists which can be afforded them. Have ready to hand some sort of litter—Fern or the like, with which to protect Celery in severe weather. New beds may be prepared for plantations of Asparagus. Proceed in this matter as previously advised. Depend more for a good plant upon a thoroughly prepared bed than upon any intended subsequent superficial dressing. Examine any roots placed in frames for an early supply; see that the bed beneath does not become too hot. Protect the stools of Globe Artichokes from frost, &c., by placing firmly around each a good thickness of loose stable litter. Do not bury what surface growth remains, but afford it an opportunity to die down naturally. Take up such a quantity of Jerusalem Artichokes, Horseradish, &c., as will ensure a good supply, should the ground become frost-bound, storing them away in some convenient storage.—W.E. in the Gardener's Chronicle.

COMIC JOURNALS.

WE were about to place a query after the word "comic," for to take up a *soi-disant* "funny" paper is to be bored with the most trashy sort of serious reading, though we must admit that *Punch* manages to maintain its superiority against its modern rivals. The great hit of the week with our comic journals appears to consist in the cartoon, which is usually—*Punch* excepted—the dreariest pictorial representation of Louis Napoleon, the Pope, or Benjamin Disraeli, in some impossible position, doing nobody knows what, and saying what only the initiated can understand. The *Tomahawk* deserves all praise, because it is a new idea, well carried out, and *Punch* being an original idea, and well written, as a rule, may also be excepted from stricture. It is the host of mediocre imitations that we are obliged to animadvert severely upon. Let us take up a copy of one of the weakest imitations of *Punch* now indited upon a patient public. What do we see? Verses, which are seldom witty, and which would not receive the honour of being glanced at if they were published in an independent form; such inanities as the "Meanderer Through Society," theatrical criticisms, which fall below the average of a penny-a-liner, an old woman's twice-told tales, and wearisome vulgarisms, which, out of Whitechapel, are the utterances of an unknown tongue; and an "Olla Podrida" of stale witticisms, barbarous playing upon words, and perversion of language, which are supposed to be the stock in trade of a comic writer. The peculiar way in which an advertisement is inserted in a daily paper by an illiterate servant out of work is pounced upon by the comic writer, and spun into copy which ought to make us roar with laughter, but doesn't. Theatrical, as well as literary criticisms should have no place in a comic paper, as well might the editor insert a leading article on the Roman question, but as a certain amount of space must be filled up, this is one of the necessary results of the dearth of comic talent. Cheap buffoonery is dying out at the music-halls—can there be any connection between this decadence and the falling off we are deploring? A somewhat opinionated person the "Meanderer through Society"—what sort of "society" we may enquire *en passant*—once observed *apropos* of a magazine article, "How absurd it is to criticize a mere bit of fun from a high art point of view!" Possibly, but in the case of the so-called comic nonsense, we deny the existence of the fun, and submit that there should really be some limit to bathos. The "Meanderer Through Society" is, without exception, one of the dreariest of writers with whom anyone seeking for fun could come in contact. The *Ultima Thule* of third-rate public-house gossip and street-corner twaddle is reached by this inane and pretentious personage. Juvenal's line, *Difficile est satiram non scribere* is not applicable to him, though if the word rubbish were substituted for satire, the line might stand. Those men whose heads are not so thick as door-posts, nor so impenetrable as stone-walls may feel a little abashed upon reading in print the inanities perpetrated by them when, under the gentle and persuasive influence of those mild incentives to questionable genius which a "Meanderer" is likely to be charitably inspired with, amid the tavern society he naturally mixes with in the exercise of his avocation, but as Mrs. Slipslop, in "Joseph Andrews" says, "Shame is not a parson's curricular," neither is it the characteristic of a "Meanderer Through Society," whatever that may mean. Breaking flies upon the wheel is never a gratifying occupation. A fisherman of sense usually makes the meshes of his net sufficiently large to let out the small fry, when, however, an unprofitable or obnoxious prey is accidentally hauled up, it is permissible to tread it under foot, because its existence may be no longer ignored, and to remit it to its native element would be to do wrong. In conclusion, at the risk of offending the entire tribe of pestilent pretenders to the cap and bells, we cannot help reiterating that the present position of the funny press, with some honourable exceptions, is much to be regretted. Wit is vanishing from amongst us, and those who should do the most to encourage it seem bent upon being the first to sign the warrant for its final extinction.

"The Catholic Calendar and Church Guide for Great Britain, for the year of Our Lord, 1868; being Bissextile, or Leap-Year. (London: R. Washbourne, Paternoster-row.) To those of the Roman Catholic persuasion, this almanac will be found of great service. It is carefully compiled, and contains a variety of information interesting to Catholics.

LITERATURE.

HOTTE'S ABYSSINIA.

"Abyssinia and Its People; or, Life in the Land of Prester John." Edited by John Camden Hotten, Fellow of the Ethnological Society, &c. With a new map, and eight coloured illustrations by Messrs. Vignaud and Barrat. (London: J. C. Hotten, Piccadilly.)

"Great cry and little wool" is a remark peculiarly appropriate just now to Abyssinia, for much has been said and much has been written respecting that mysterious land, but, after all, little is known about it. The additional penny in the income-tax, regarded by the *Spectator* as equivalent to twopence, which is to pay for the expedition against Theodore, will cause the most indifferent amongst us to look with interest upon a country which, however remote and barbarous, has nevertheless the power to move so mighty a nation as England to wrath. Carefully compiled, exhaustively written, and laboriously studied, Mr. Hotten's "Abyssinia" will be regarded for the present as a text-book. As the expedition progresses, more will be known respecting the region governed by King Theodore, but just now we are grateful for small mercies, and Hotten's "Abyssinia" comes in the nick of time to tell us much we did not know, and a great deal which we, as a nation engaged in what may be a serious war with a foreign potentate, should hide our heads in shame to be ignorant of. The illustrations are peculiar, and one particularly, representing a native of Abyssinia devouring raw meat, is of the most grotesque kind. The author modestly says that he claims no literary merit whatever for the performance, and that if his book is of no other value it will at least serve to indicate the authorities which may be consulted by anyone desirous of extending his knowledge of the country and its people. The work is an able compendium of all that has been written about Abyssinia, and so varied and interesting is the information given in it that not one line can be pronounced "dull" by the most exacting reader devoted to sensational literature.

A better book for a Christmas present, or for winter reading, has not been published this year.

BOW BELLS.

WE have received the Christmas number and supplement of this favourite magazine, containing—1, The Peasant Girl; 2, The Black Tulip; 3, An Essay for Christmas; 4, A Poem for Christmas; 5, Christmas Festivities; 6, The "Morgen-Blätter" Valse; with Portrait; 7, Three Crosses on the Wall; 8, Unlucky Lodgings; 9, The Footfall on the Stairs; 10, The Listener on the Landing; 11, The Spy at the Keyhole; 12, The Other Spy; 13, The Man Who Came at Half-past Midnight; 14, The Dawn of Another Day; 15, An Acting Christmas Charade; 16, A Song for Christmas; 17, Dreaming of Thee; 18, An Address to Ladies, and Needlework; 19, Christmas Riddles, Conundrums, Rebuses; 20, Astrutha; 21, Ronald MacDonald. The whole of the above are illustrated.

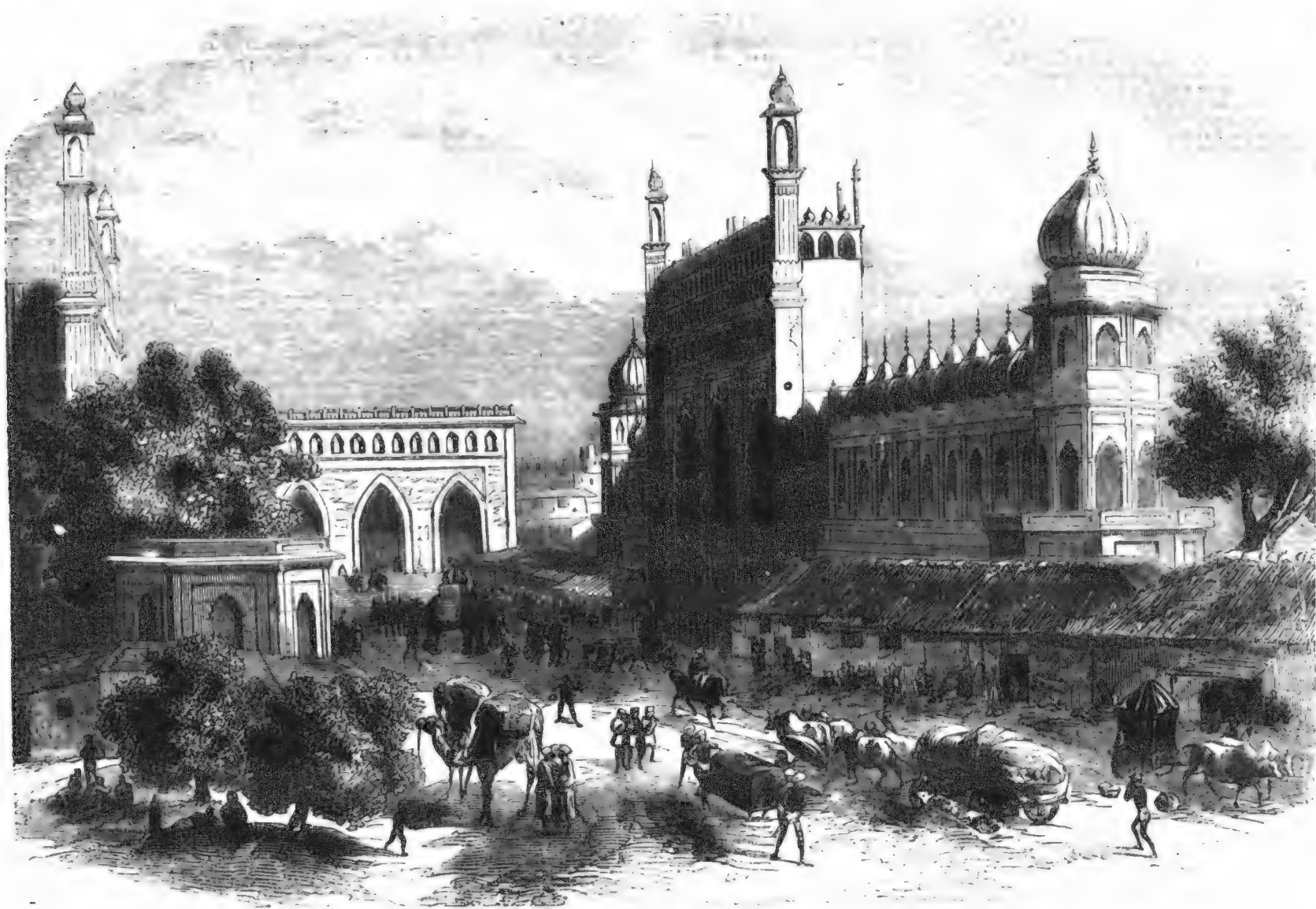
This is an age of marvels, and with "Bow Bells" before us, we must admit that literature is not behind the age. The "Three Crosses on the Wall" are ably introduced to the reader by Mr. Ross, already favourably known to the buyers of Christmas stories. The ubiquitous George Augustus Sala, contributes an excellent story, and those favourite authoresses, Mrs. Winstanley and Mrs. Crow, are as genial and entertaining as usual. We can sincerely recommend "Bow Bells" to every reader, as the Christmas supplement for 1867 well sustains the reputation which the "Blue Door" served to establish. The price is only twopence.

"The Dead Letter." By Sealy Register. Price 1s. J. A. Berger, 13, Catherine-street, Strand.

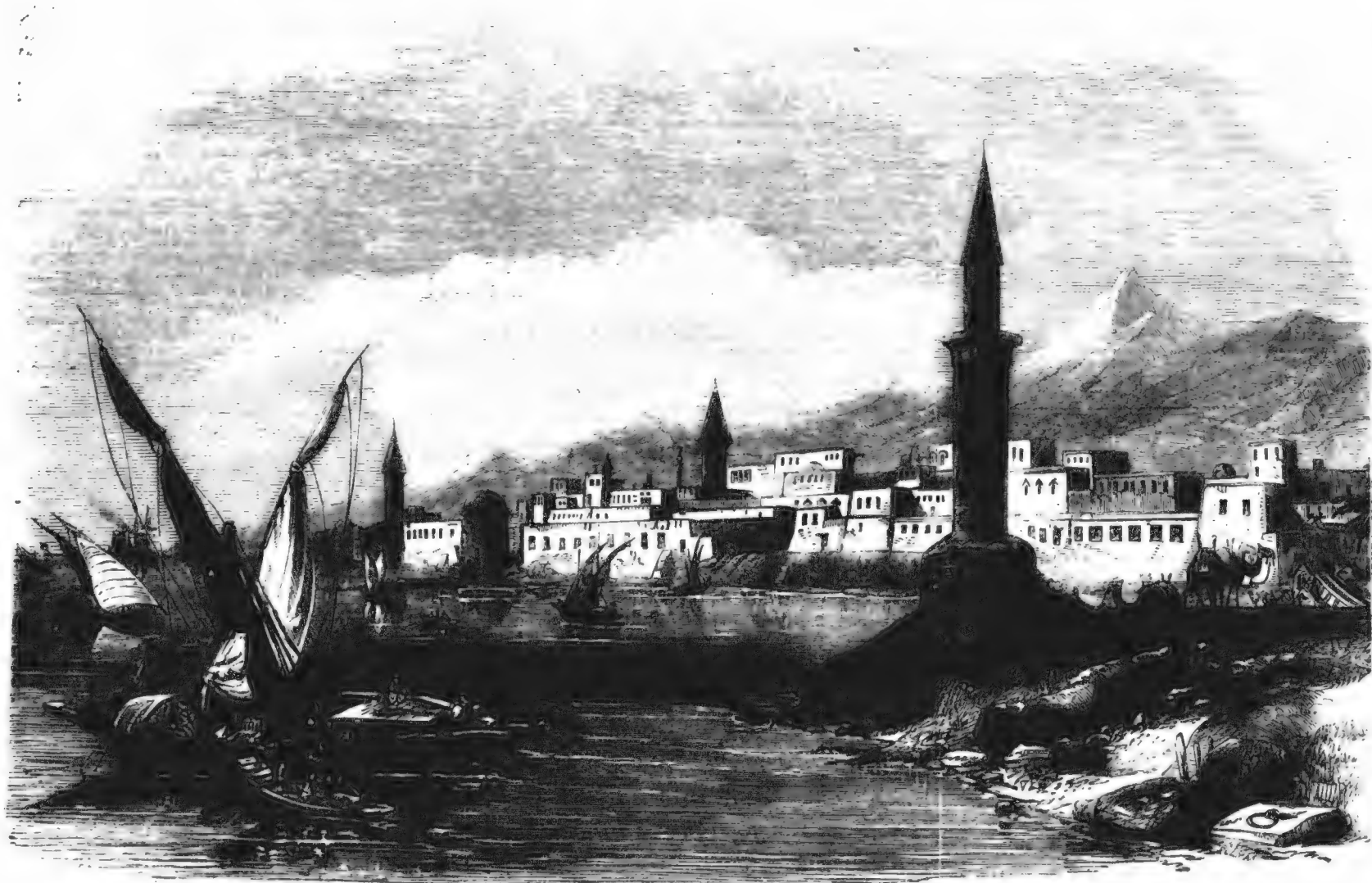
This book has had such an enormous sale in America that its success on this side of the Atlantic is not to be wondered at. The interest never flags, the language is chaste and elegant, and the cheap and handy form in which the publisher has introduced it to the public is such as to render it a desideratum in every household. We take a passage at random:—

"A silence, like that which Dr. Kane speaks of as one of the most impressive features of the long Arctic night, brooded around; over against the hills came gradually stealing the silvery lustre of the rising moon, while the valleys yet lay in profoundest gloom; the glimmering stretches of snow broadened into whiter fields; the picturesque villa, with its turrets and porches and pointed roof, stood black and quiet before me. I could hear a dog barking afar off, as it were some dream-dog, barking in some dream-world. I had almost forgotten the cause of my being there, at that strange hour, in that lone spot, gazing at that dark mass of building, empty of life and warmth as was her heart of joy or hope; the intense cold, the odour of the pines and hemlock, the trance of thought into which I had fallen, were benumbing me.

Suddenly I saw a shapeless and shadowy brightness hovering amid those dark turrets. It was the death-light of which Mrs. Scott had told me. A warm thrill ran through my fingers and toes, arousing me to the keenest consciousness. I watched it flutter and move—stand still—flutter again—and disappear. It lasted perhaps three minutes. In that time I had made up my mind as to the mysterious appearance—it was the light of a lamp or candle being carried about in a person's hand. That was what it most resembled; but who carried it, and how was the reflection thrown there, over the roof? There was certainly a mystery about this which, had I been at all superstitious, or even nervous, would have unfitted me for any further cool investigation. I resolved that if I could not master the marvel then, I would do it by the light of day. I watched intently, hoping it would re-appear, and give me some glimpse of its origin. While I waited, a ray of light pierced through the shutters of Henry's room. I will acknowledge that for one single instant the hand of the dead seemed laid on my heart; it turned cold, and refused to beat. The next, I smiled grimly at myself. I had never been a moral or physical coward. The solution of the mystery was now in my grasp, and I had no idea of letting it slip. I was confident that some person was playing the mischief in the deserted house; but if I had really expected to confront the inhabitants of another world, I should not have hesitated. The key of the main entrance was in my pocket; I walked swiftly to the house, unlocked the door as softly as possible, and grasping my stick firmly in my hand, sprang up the stairs. It was quite dark in the house, although it was now light out of doors; in my haste, I hit my foot against a chair at the bottom of the stairs, and overthrew it. I was provoked, for I wished to come upon these midnight prowlers unawares. Knowing just where the room was situated, I went directly towards it; it was very dark in the upper passage, all the blinds being closed; I groped for the handle of the door—something rustled, something stirred the air—I flung the door open. There was no light in it. All was dark and silent. Before I could fling the shutter open, sitting in a peaceful flood of silver moonlight, my hope of detecting the intruder was almost at an end. I was certain that something had passed me in the obscurity of the hall; I had been conscious of that subtle magnetism which emanates from a human form, perceived in the blackest night. It may be the magnetism of the soul instead of body, and a disembodied spirit may have sent the same electric current through me. At all events, I had now nothing for my labour. I did not think that another journey over the house would result in any discovery, since the warning had been given; I had no lamp or lantern with me; I reluctantly after lingering and listening some time in vain, closed the room and the house, and returned to the cottage, where I drank the coffee which awaited me, laid down on a buffalo-robe before the stove, and slept away my vexation."



SKETCHES IN INDIA.—THE PRINCIPAL STREET OF LUCKNOW.



VIEW OF DJIDDA, ARABIA.

AUSTRIAN POLICY.

OUR Vienna correspondent says, writing on the 26th ult.:—"The maintenance of peace continues to be the chief object of Austrian policy, and Baron Beust neglects no opportunity of securing this object. You were informed by my telegram the other day that it was this wish to leave nothing undone which might assist in the work of pacification that induced him to accept the French invitation to a conference, and I can now add that he would have much preferred to keep clear of the Roman question, and have nothing to do with the Conference. The desire for peace, and considerations of courtesy which he could not well disregard, alone overcame his reluctance to interfere in the matter. I am also enabled to state, authoritatively, that the chances of the success of the Conference scheme have considerably increased within the last few days. The Pope consents; Italy has given a faltering, somewhat undecided 'yes' in reply to the invitation; Bavaria, as you know, has also accepted it. From what I have said above (on which you may implicitly rely), it will be seen that it was not a leaning towards Rome, but other reasons, that decided Austria to take part in the Conference. Not a word has been said on her part about the maintenance of the temporal power of the Pope being a condition of her participation. Such a declaration would be wholly at variance with the course which Baron Beust has hitherto pursued, and is still pursuing, in Austria."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE BREWING MONOPOLY.

MR. PEASE sought on Thursday night to elicit from Mr. Hardy a promise that during the session of 1868 a measure would be brought forward for regulating the granting of licences for the sale of wine, beer, and spirits, and for placing them under one jurisdiction. But Mr. Hardy, who, it must be recollected, has always been a steadfast upholder of the great brewing monopoly,

LEECH FISHING IN LA BRENNE.

THE leech fishers of La Brenne lead a most toiling and harassing life. They tuck up their trousers to their knees and enter the streams where leeches abound, bare-legged. As soon as they feel "a bite" they stoop down and hastily transfer the leech from their feet or legs into the bottle which is carried round their neck. The fishers are exceedingly sallow complexioned, and always wear a pale and wearied look, in consequence of the loss of blood to which they are subject.

SKETCHES IN INDIA—THE PRINCIPAL STREET OF LUCKNOW.

THE name of Lucknow will always be remembered in English history in connection with the Great Indian Rebellion. On page 700 we give an illustration of its principal street, which is wide, and in many parts ornamented on each side with beautiful Oriental edifices, with gilded cupolas and innumerable minarets. It is always a busy scene, though now divested of its former grandeur. Horses, camels, elephants, and bullocks are continually passing up and down and in and out of its various gateways. It is also an aristocratic place among the Hindoo nobility.

VIEW OF DJIDDA.

DJIDDA, or Jidda, is an important maritime city of Arabia, being the port of Mecca, and one of the chief entrepôts for foreign commerce in the Peninsula. It will doubtless prove a very handy port with regard to the Abyssinian expedition, as imported articles are conveyed from here direct to Suez. The population is from 8,000 to 10,000, and nearly all engaged in the import and export trade. The houses are mostly built of stone; the mosques, five in number, are poor and mean. It is a place of sanctity, as in the neighbourhood is the reputed tomb of Eve.

A GOOD PLAN.

THE Poor Law guardians in Herefordshire and Gloucestershire seem to have hit upon a new expedient for dealing with casuals. Their object is to draw a line between the professional tramp and bona fide working men who may be obliged to avail themselves of a lodging in the workhouse while in search of work; and this is the plan they pursue:—Any poor workman (on proving himself such, we presume) can have a travelling ticket by applying to the relieving officer of vagrants, and when he has occasion to seek shelter and refreshment he is treated at the workhouse quite differently from the ordinary casual. He gets a good supper and breakfast, and is allowed to go on his way without performing any labour. The tramp who has not this ticket (which is signed at each place the holder stops at) must do the usual amount of labour before he gets his breakfast. Any person who may be asked for relief by men travelling about the country where this plan is in operation can ask to see the applicant's ticket before giving anything, and if one is produced he will be able to see where the holder has come from, and whether he is on the road he has indicated to the workhouse authorities. If a beggar produces no ticket the inference will be that he is a professional tramp. The system, we are told is already beginning to produce good results.

THE PORT OF PLYMOUTH.

W. F. MOORE, chairman of the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, has written to the *Times* to protest against the imputations cast upon the port of Plymouth by the First Lord of the Admiralty, when attempting to explain to the House of Commons that bandying regiments unnecessarily to and fro between Portsmouth and Plymouth is a necessary expenditure of public money. Mr. Moore classes Mr. Corry's explanation with "those pleasantries by which a troublesome question is sometimes evaded in the House of Commons, and which were considered to be the peculiar forte of a late Secretary of the Admiralty, now rewarded for his ingenuity by a foreign command." He then says:—



LEECH FISHING IN LA BRENNE.

and who first brought himself into notice by a capital speech in support of it when condemned by Mr. Villiers's Committee, would give no such pledge. He said he had been very busy of late, and had not been able to study the subject as fully as he must before he dealt with it as a legislator. "Therefore," said Mr. Hardy, "I am not in a position to say that any measure affecting the licensing system will be introduced by me; much less can I say that a measure will be introduced for placing under the same jurisdiction all the licenses referred to in the question of the hon. gentleman." The fact is that the power of the brewing monopoly is overwhelming in the House of Commons, and although Committee after Committee may pronounce the existing system of licensing to be corrupt and oppressive, no Minister will dare to alter it until compelled by pressure from without. Sir George Grey, when Home Secretary, was always commencing bills which were never produced, and Mr. Hardy—more candid and consistent than Sir George—admits that no such bill is in contemplation by Her Majesty's present advisers.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD STANLEY.

THE name of Lord Stanley, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has of late been so prominent, especially in connection with the Abyssinian Expedition, that we present our readers with his portrait on our front page. The right hon. gentleman is the eldest son of the Earl of Derby, and was born in July, 1826. He was educated at Rugby and at Trinity College, Cambridge. In the latter place he graduated with high honours in 1848. In the same year he was first returned for Lynn Regis, of which he is still the member. In 1852 he was Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; in 1858-9, Secretary of State for India. Since then he has held other offices at different periods, until finally he holds the important post he now seems filling to the utmost satisfaction of the Government.

A PLEA FOR ENGINE DRIVERS.

THE *Times* pleads for shelter for the drivers of railway locomotives when at work. The engine driver always fares worse in rough weather than other men. He cannot even walk a deck to restore a flagging circulation. He is compelled to perform his duties half frozen by the searching storm, with only a piece of glass before his face to prevent him from being blinded by rain or snow, and all for no cause or reason. It is absolutely dangerous to place a man who holds so many lives in his hands at the mercy of the utmost violence of the elements. The waste of vitality that goes on is lamentable, and we should all be startled if we were told the number of lives which are lost by a practice which is little less than inhuman. The Americans enclose the driver and stoker in a little glass house, through the windows of which they may see perfectly all that lies before and around them, and at the same time be sheltered from a storm. There has not been found a single disadvantage from this device. The windows slide back at the sides, so that the driver may easily look out, but as a rule there is no necessity for this. The glass is no obstruction to the sight. The enclosure is placed at the back of the furnace, so that there is no possibility of the drivers freezing at their posts. The same principle, with some alterations, has been adopted on our railways in India. A double roof is placed over the engine to shield drivers and stokers from the sun, and thus all the protection they need is afforded them. In the British North American Provinces the engines are invariably fitted with glass enclosures. A man needs shelter from an English north or east wind as much as he can ever do against the frosts and snows of North America.

PARIS EXHIBITION.—Gentlemen, before starting for the Continent, should go to JONES & Co's, 73, Long Acre, and purchase one of their Half-Guinea Hats (the Hamilton), new shape, which, for style and durability cannot be equalled.—JONES & Co. Manufacturers, 73, Long Acre.—[ADVT.]

"It must appear strange to the uninformed that the finest port and arsenal in the kingdom, in which the largest ships in our fleet are continually moved, from the Sound to Hamoaze, and vice versa, without inconvenience, under the care of the proper officer, whose ability has never been questioned, should be unable to find suitable accommodation for any transports either in or out of the service. The cause is to be sought for elsewhere, but it is to prevent any misconception as to the capabilities of the port, the claims of which it has been lately my duty to enforce for the purpose of the postal service for foreign mails, that I venture to object to the reasons assigned by Mr. Corry in the House on Thursday last, and to assure all those who may be interested in the subject that there is no want of wharves or jetties in the port for the accommodation of these ships, and no lack of competent men to place them alongside in any weather short of a hurricane."

AN ELEGANT COUGH REMEDY.—In our variable climate during the winter months coughs and colds appear the greatest enemies to mankind, and we are pleased to be able to draw the attention of sufferers to "Strange's Celebrated Balsam of Honey," which as a cough remedy, stands unrivalled. Honey, in the form of a Balsamic preparation, is strongly recommended by the Faculty our medical works, and by Dr. Pereira (late lecturer on medicine to the hospital).—See *Materia Medica*, vol. ii. page 1854. It will relieve the most irritating cough in a few minutes, and by its mildly stimulating action, gently discharges phlegm from the chest by easy expectoration, and restores the healthy action of the lungs. The amount of suffering at this time of the year is incalculable, and numbers, from the want of an effectual remedy at a low cost, have the germs of consumption laid. Sold by most chemists at 1s. 1d. per bottle, large size 2s. 3d. Prepared by P. Strange, operative chemist, 260, East street, Walworth. Agents: Messrs. Barclay, Farrington-street; Newberry, St. Paul's; J. Sanger, 50, Oxford-street; and Butler and Criepe, Chapside.—[ADVT.]

LAW AND POLICE.

IMPORTANT CONTRADICTION.—Alderman J. C. Lawrence, on taking his seat on the bench, said a case occurred at the Mansion House recently, and had been reported, in which a statement was made that was so opposed to fact that he felt it necessary to give it the most complete and unqualified contradiction. The statement that was made was, that offenders in the City used to get over the City boundary, and that the City officers could not follow them, and, on the other hand, that the Metropolitan officers could not follow offenders into the City. A misapprehension had gone abroad in consequence of that statement, and he therefore wished to say that the assertion was entirely opposed to law and practice. If a City policeman saw a person committing an offence in the City he (the policeman) was empowered, and in all cases did follow him, not only over the boundary, but to any part he might go. It was then his duty to take him before the nearest magistrate, and have him transferred back to the place where the offence was committed. The law and practice went even further than that, for they did not require an officer to see the offence committed in order to follow a man over the boundary, for he could do it if he had ground to suspect that the man had committed an offence. There were many instances in which City officers had apprehended persons in the metropolis and brought them before the magistrates of the district in which they were taken, and also where metropolitan officers had apprehended persons within the City, and taken them either to the Mansion House or Guildhall. He had thought it his duty to say this much in order to remove the misapprehension that had gone abroad, and he trusted that the press, which had given publicity to a statement that was contrary to law and practice, would give as wide a circulation to his unqualified contradiction to it.

EMBEZZLEMENT BY A TRAVELLER.—Henry Frederick Selby, a most respectable-looking man, and described as a commercial traveller, was indicted for embezzling the several sums £3 5s. 6d., £2 1s. 6d., and £4 17s. 6d. received by him for and on account of Robert Frederick Botting, his master. There were three other indictments against him for embezzlement, amounting in the aggregate to £40.—Although the prisoner was only indicted for the embezzlement of the comparatively small sums named in the several indictments, yet from subsequent inquiries it was ascertained that the total sum of which the prisoner had robbed his employer amounted to upwards of £900.—The prosecutor is a spirit merchant, carrying on business in High-street, Marylebone, and the prisoner was for some time in his service as traveller, and it was his duty to receive money from the customers, and pay it over daily to his employer. His position was one entirely of trust, and to offer him every reason to act with fidelity to his employer he was paid the liberal salary of £3 per week together with board and lodging, and when he waited upon customers he had the use of a horse and trap, and 24s. per day were allowed him to cover incidental expenses. In the course of his duty he had to make a return of his transactions with customers, if they paid ready money at once to hand it over, and if they had not paid to report the same accordingly. It was ascertained, however, that several who were set down as owing money had paid it to the prisoner, and obtained his receipt for it, and these persons were somewhat surprised in being again called upon to pay the money. The prosecutor had been going on believing that he was doing a very satisfactory trade, and that the debts upon his books represented goods sold but not paid for; but subsequent examinations showed that the greater part of these had already been received by the prisoner, which he had all along been appropriating to his own use. He was also in the habit at times of going into the City with the prosecutor, and seeing him buy cigars, thereby obtaining a knowledge of how much per pound he paid for them. The investigations, however, showed that the prisoner, in several instances, entered in the prosecutor's day-book the goods sold at so much per pound, whereas, in fact, he often sold them under cost price, which was a very strong proof that he never intended to pay for them. Another system of fraud pursued by the prisoner was that of entering the disposal of a given quantity of goods to a particular person, and as sold unpaid, when, in point of fact, the goods had neither been ordered by nor delivered to the person so represented to have had them.—The Judge said when a fit case came before the Court it was its duty to pass a severe sentence, and if they were to wait for seven years they would not have a more fitting case than the one then before them to justify the Court in doing so. Here was a man with a salary of £3 a week, besides board and lodging, and he had nothing scarcely to do but act honestly, but instead of doing so he had robbed his employer to the extent of about £900. The Court trusted that this would be held out to others as an example by the sentence he was then about to pronounce, which was that the prisoner be kept in penal servitude for five years.

THE SALE OF POSTAGE STAMPS.—In the case of a boy of 14, who had been a week under remand, and who was charged before Mr. Alderman Lusk, M.P., with stealing postage stamps from his employer, to whom he was errand-boy, the complainant, Mr. Arthur Atkinson, of Leadenhall-street, druggist, while not wishing to press the charge, in consideration of the boy's age and of his having been already eight days in prison, still wished to call the attention of the Bench to the facilities which were given by the Post-Office for the purchase of postage stamps. He had seen the Postmaster on the subject, who told him that, unfortunately, the tendency of these facilities was in many instances to create thieves, and that the Post-Office had no alternative but to buy stamps by whomsoever they were tendered for sale. The complainant had no doubt the boy in this case had sold the stamps he stole at a post-office, but of that there was no evidence.—Mr. Alderman Lusk said cases, and one in particular, had come under his own knowledge as a magistrate, in which persons who had stolen postage stamps from their employers had afterwards sold them at a post-office, and he thought the matter was worth the consideration of the Postmaster General.

THE ATTEMPTED FRAUD ON THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.—John Hall, 50, who pleaded guilty last session to an indictment charging him with obtaining, by false pretences, from Gustave Masu, a gun, value £25, with intent to defraud, was brought up for judgment.—On that occasion it was shown that he had endeavoured to obtain an appointment under Government (by representing that he was known to Lord Vivian), in the Abyssinian expedition, and also to get goods in the name of the Countess Nelson, and other persons, by false pretences.—Mr. George Lockyer, officer of the court, who had been ordered to make inquiries as to the prisoner's antecedents, said that he had ascertained that on the 17th of June the prisoner had taken lodgings at No. 2, Buckingham-street, Fitzroy-square, and the only property he had was a tin-box and a travelling bag, and he paid 5s. per week rent during the whole time he was there. According to his landlady he appeared to have suffered great distress, and on three Sundays had a pig's head for dinner. His little boy had told him that his father was a doctor in the army, and that he was born in the Crimea while the British army was in that country. The child also said that when they were in Scotland he used to have his pony to ride, and that his father was then well off. The prisoner said he was written to by a person at Farnham, asking him to purchase the gun for him, but being short of money he had raised some on it. The person named had been written to, but the letter had been returned through the dead-letter office, and endorsed "Unknown." Since he had been in court the *Maclesfield Courier* had been put into his hand, which contained the following notice with respect to the prisoner:—"Extraordinary Career of a Swindler.—There now awaits sentence at the Middlesex Session a man, named John or J. M. Hall, on several charges of swindling. Up to four

months ago, and for about eighteen months before that, he resided in Carlisle, ostensibly as the agent of a shipping house; but, in fact, the business of his life was swindling, and the audacity of some of his attempts was not more striking than the adroitness with which he avoided the clutches of the police. As our readers may recollect, he tried to get a pension from Lord Derby, on the plea that he was "an author in distress"; and our Carlisle correspondent has reason to know that an allowance of £50 was actually made to him; but at the last moment the Treasury draft was stopped through the Bank. One among his many achievements was the following:—A gentleman, living in Carlisle, of well-known literary and artistic predilections, received a letter from a Mr. Hind, of London, stating that Sir Edwin Landseer had requested him (Mr. Hind) to gather in all his early paintings, which were considered unworthy of his matured fame. Well, he (Mr. Hind) had learned that one of these early productions was in the possession of 'a Mr. Hall, of Carlisle,' and Sir Edwin would take it as a great kindness if Mr. — would at once purchase it from 'Mr. Hall,' send it to London to the writer, and of course the money would be returned. The gentleman to whom this letter was addressed, proud to be of service to the great artist, went to Hall's place, where the 'Landseer' was hanging up—an execrable dog and cat daub—which was bought for £14. The same day Mr. — sent a letter to his London correspondent telling him of the bargain he had made with 'Mr. Hall,' but the letter came back through the dead-letter office, marked 'Not known.' A criminal prosecution was commenced in this case, but the accomplished rogue, by some means, got Mr. — to take back part of the money, and give him a receipt for it, as though it were part of a debt owing. This, of course, quashed all criminal proceedings. One of the most common of Hall's plans of extortion was that of making claims upon the widows and executors of deceased gentlemen, and it is believed he tried this plan in dozens of cases. He made such a claim upon the family of Sir Gilbert East, who was drowned; upon the family of the Hon. Mr. Butler, who was killed by a fall down Scafell; he addressed a letter, under an assumed name, to Lady Titchborne, telling her ladyship that 'Mr. Hall, of Carlisle' could set at rest the identity of her son. In the present instance he has been caught attempting to swindle Lord Stanley, Lord Vivian, Lady Nelson, and others.—The Prisoner said that the whole of that article had no reference whatever to him.—The Judge said that was a matter that must be inquired into, and to allow those inquiries to be made he should defer passing sentence until next sessions.

THE PROPRIETOR OF HIGHBURY BARN AND THE IRASCIBLE BARMAN.

The case of Anderson v. Giovannelli, was an action against the proprietor of Highbury Barn Tavern, and the plaintiff claimed damages for an assault, and also for slanderous words, imputing to him that he was a brothel keeper.—The defendant pleaded not guilty, and that the assault was committed in removing the plaintiff from Highbury Barn, where he was creating a disturbance and annoying the company.

The plaintiff was a barman at the Philharmonic Hall, and he also kept an adjoining tobaccoist's shop, where he lived with some members of his family. On Sunday, the 4th of August last, the prisoner was at Highbury Barn, and on presenting his refreshment ticket at the bar, Mrs. Giovannelli accused him of having been concerned in creating a disturbance there on the previous Thursday, and refused to serve him. Some time afterwards the defendant spoke to the plaintiff as he was walking with a friend, and applied the slanderous words to him and turned him out. When written to by the plaintiff's solicitor, he denied using the words complained of, but added that he had in his possession a letter of the plaintiff, "which he would not like to be seen." The plaintiff's counsel said that it was not the first time that the defendant had made similar imputations, and, indeed, among other things the defendant had spoken to a barmaid of his, with whom the plaintiff was then keeping company, and the result of what he said was that the engagement was broken off.

The plaintiff, in his evidence, stated what Mr. Giovannelli had said, and added that he said, "You know, sir, I had nothing to do with it." The defendant said he had; he had a light coat on at the time. Plaintiff said his brother had on a light coat, but that he (witness) kept away from the disturbance. On another occasion the defendant said that he should like to wring his — nose, and said that he was a brothel keeper, and would not have such people there. He also took the plaintiff by the back of the neck, and said, "If you do not go out I will kick you out." Plaintiff said that he would go quietly, but the defendant kept pushing him by the back of the neck, and repeated the slanderous words. Plaintiff had been barman at the Philharmonic for four years, but was discharged about a month after the slander. No reason was assigned except want of business.

Mr. Huddleston said that it should not be suggested that this was the consequence of the defendant's acts, for no special damage was alleged in the declaration.

Witness continued: He never on any occasion created a disturbance or used abusive language at Highbury Barn. He paid his addresses to Miss Celia Burrows, a barmaid of the defendants, and in consequence of something she told him he wrote to the defendant, and said he thought he had no grounds for saying what he had said, and that witness should require some apology.

Cross-examined: The defendant never accused witness of bringing home Celia Burrows drunk; and the letter was not an apology for so doing. Witness was at the gardens on Thursday, the 1st of August. He did not see the defendant struck. The defendant gave a man into custody, but witness did not ask him not to press the charge. On the Sunday Mr. Davis, who walked with crutches, was with witness. The defendant accused witness of having been engaged in the disturbance on Thursday, but he did not say that he had no business there. The witness in continuation denied that the imputation of brothel keeping was made upon a woman named Bennett, and that upon witness asking if it were applied to him, the defendant said that he should be sorry to say anything of the kind to him.

Mr. David Rizzio Davis, a mathematical teacher, stated that he was with the plaintiff at the gardens, and he confirmed the plaintiff's statement as to what took place on the Sunday, and added that there was no woman near to whom the offensive words could be applied. They were applied to the plaintiff.

Mr. Wm. Fairhead, a builder, and Mr. Christopher Neale, a commercial traveller, gave similar evidence.

Mrs. Celia Humphreys said that her maiden name was Burrows, and she kept company with the plaintiff. The defendant asked her if she was keeping company with a barman at the Philharmonic Hall, and she said "Yes." He said, "He and his brother are keeping a bad house." Witness wrote a letter about it, and gave it to the plaintiff when he came next day.

Mr. Huddleston, in addressing the jury, said that a more wicked attempt to fix a charge upon the defendant had never been made; and said further that Mr. Giovannelli had never applied the words which had been stated to the plaintiff. The truth was that Mr. Giovannelli stated that he would not have the plaintiff at the gardens, in consequence of his having been concerned in the disturbance on the Thursday, and then turning towards the woman Bennett, against whom he had been cautioned by the police, said that he would have no brothel keeper there. The letter referred to in Mr. Giovannelli's answer to the plaintiff's solicitor was an apology from the plaintiff for having brought home the girl Burrows drunk.

Mr. Giovannelli said that on Sunday he was at the pavilion bar, and saw the plaintiff and Mr. Davis. They and two females, one of them Mrs. Bennett, were together. The plaintiff said he had been

accused by Mrs. Giovannelli of causing a disturbance on the Thursday. Witness told him to go away, and said it was not the first disturbance he had been engaged in there, and that he was the cause of Mr. Frank being taken to the station-house on Thursday. The plaintiff was very annoying; he said, "Who the devil are you?" and witness told them to go away. They all followed him up the steps and through the hall annoying him and calling him a snob, a — foreigner, and a humbug. The plaintiff wanted to go to the bar to explain to Mrs. Giovannelli, and witness said that he would have no disturbance and that they should go about their business. This was at twenty-five minutes to eleven. Mr. Davis lifted his crutch to witness and used abusive language. Witness said that he should not come in again, and said to Bennett, "Nor you; you are a brothel keeper." The plaintiff said, "You call me a brothel keeper?" and witness said, "No," and similar words passed with Mr. Davis. The plaintiff said, "We will give it to the —," and then witness said, "You shall go out of my place for using abusive language," and he led him out. He never called the plaintiff a brothel keeper. The contents of the plaintiff's letter which had been referred to were that he apologised for what had occurred, and promised not to come and make a breach of the peace again if witness would not tell his employers. Upon this directions were given to keep the plaintiff out of the place for a twelvemonth. The girl Burrows had come home at five in the morning drunk, and said that she had been with the plaintiff.

Cross-examined: Neither Fairhead nor Neale was present when the words passed.

Two friends of the defendant and two of his servants stated that the defendant when appealed to stated distinctly that he did not call the plaintiff or Mr. Davis a brothel keeper, but they thereupon became abusive, and the plaintiff was put out, and further that it was believed that Fairhead and Neale were not present on this occasion.

At the conclusion of the evidence for the defendant the jury intimated that they had made up their minds.

Mr. T. Salter, however, addressed them, pointing out the probabilities in favour of his client's case being the true one.

A Jurymen afterwards said that it was a mistake to say that they were all agreed, and that they should like to have the evidence summed up.

His Lordship thereupon read over his notes of the evidence, and the jury found for the defendant.

THE MICROSCOPE.

"The Microscope; its History, Construction, and Application." By Jabez Hogg, F.L.S., F.R.M.S., M.R.C.S., &c., &c. George Routledge and Sons, London.

The microscope is one of the most useful instruments of science. It is of the utmost utility to the medical profession, the chemist, the botanist, the student of natural history especially, the entomologist, and to men in almost every department of science. Even where it might be supposed not necessary at all, a previous knowledge of the microscope is essential to the satisfactory prosecution of material investigations. The geologist for some time did not bring this instrument into requisition, but now the doctrine is propounded that, for the efficient study of geology, it is desirable and even necessary to understand chemistry, botany, chronology, and natural history generally, just as it is necessary for the mineralogist to understand geology. As this connection of the sciences and their reciprocal dependence becomes more impressed upon the minds of those who investigate different departments of nature, the microscope will be brought into almost universal use. Without it we should be for ever ignorant of those regions of life in earth, air, and water which the naked eye cannot detect. With it we are able literally to explore the invisible, and make ourselves acquainted even intimately with the strange productions, processes, and transformations of life in a vast universe beyond the discovery of the naked eye. Confining both expressions to our own planet, it may in truth be said that the minuteness of creation is more wonderful than its immensity. There are more variety, a more refined organization, and more surprising operations in the world of minute than of mighty things. It is as interesting to study the life of a glow-worm as that of an eagle or an elephant, and the history of a butterfly or a silkworm from the egg through their various transformations is more astonishing, and displays more of the wisdom and power of the Creator as that of the largest antediluvian monsters which geological discovery has revealed to us. The microscope has brought to our knowledge many laws operating in the natural world, just as the telescope brings within our recognition laws operating in the universe, which but for its assistance would remain hid for ever. It is scarcely possible to imagine more interesting or instructive studies for non-professional and young persons than microscopic objects. The eggs of insects illustrate this fact very strikingly. Their variety of construction, the marvellous beauty of their shape, and of their infinitely diversified colouring, the processes of their formation, laying, hatching, and final development of the creature contained in it, would amaze an ornithologist to whom such objects were not previously presented. Yet the wonderful instrument which does so much for us is simple in its construction, which proceeds upon a few well recognized philosophical principles. Useful as the microscope is it was but recently brought to its present perfection. Perhaps it may have been known to some nations of antiquity in a degree of perfection, and used to an extent which history does not disclose. The illuminated MS. of the Anglo-Saxons, and still more of the Celtic Irish suggest this. So minute is the ornamentation of those works, so varied, and so exquisitely beautiful, that Mr. Digby Wyatt felt constrained to say, "they must have been wrought with the hands and eyes of angels not of men." Probably more was known of the microscope by the authors of those tasteful and elaborately minute works of art than men now conjecture. At all events, in all time to come this instrument will hold an important place among the tools with which philosophers must work. Any man who should succeed in making the public familiar with such an appliance for acquiring both knowledge, intelligent pleasure, and of such practical utility, would do a great service to his country, and deserve much honour for himself. Dr. Hogg has the happy privilege of accomplishing this act. His book has gone through six large editions, the demand for it increases, and will still more eagerly increase. It is divided into three parts—the history, construction, and application. In the first, Dr. Hogg shows his erudition; in the second, his aptness for the elucidation of philosophical and mechanical principles; and in the third, he proves his aptness to teach every way. The work relates many experiments and observations, and is enriched by elegantly drawn and coloured representations of objects seen only through the microscope. The style is lucid and vigorous, without redundancy, or unnecessary expansion, and characterised by fertility of illustration and tasteful expression. Dr. Hogg is to be congratulated on the production of so learned and accomplished a work, and the public likewise for having the opportunity of its perusal.

THE CONVULSIONNAIRES.—The African Convulsionnaires, of the tribe of Aïssa Houha, must be very extraordinary people. Their advertisement in the *Times* tells us that before mixed audiences of ladies and gentlemen they charm serpents, eat fire, bear a red-hot shovel on their tongue with delight, stamp out an intense fire with the bare feet, eat prickly cactus, walk upon the keen edge of a sword, and perform other agreeable feats. But they do more than all this. They have special extraordinary morning performances, to which gentlemen only are admitted; and what they do on these occasions the Barnum who exhibits them leaves to the imagination of the curious.

GOOD READING.—The annual prize of £40 for "good reading," of which we quote in an article, "Clerical Fiddles and Fiddlesticks," in our impression for Nov. 16, has at length been accepted by the University of Cambridge, after a year's delay and the report of more than one Syndicate. It was offered by an anonymous donor, through the Rev. Mr. Johns, and it is to be called "The Winchester Prize"—the why and the wherefore of this title not, at present, being sufficiently apparent to be announced with approximate certainty; for if we said, as many do, that the venerable diocesan who rules the see of Winchester was the anonymous donor, we might not be stating the truth. The primary conferring of the Good-reading Prize will not take place until after Easter, 1868; before which time, it is hoped, that competent examiners and judges will be found, and also that the objections made by many as to the text of the Bible and Prayer-Book being made the subject of a University "Penny Reading" competition will be satisfactorily disposed of.—*Leader*.

THE NEGUS OF ABYSSINIA.—Aprespos of the Negus of Abyssinia, there is no want of Whine (in some of the papers), but the real difficulty is, to say where the water is to come from.—*Punch*.

BUTTER UPON BACON.—When Mr. Thaddeus Stevens tries to persuade the people of the United States that the public debt is to be paid off in green-backs, he will only find green backers.—*Ibid.*

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This "MAIZENA" has just received the only Silver Medal for Corn Flour, the Jury reporting it "Perfection of Preparation."
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THE ONE WINE COMPANY (LIMITED): ARE the sole bottlers of Wine in Imperial measure.

THE ONE WINE COMPANY (LIMITED): SAY that an Imperial pint bottle is bound by law to hold one-eighth part of a gallon. And that an Imperial quart bottle is bound by law to hold one-fourth part of a gallon.

THE ONE WINE COMPANY (LIMITED): SAY that the reputed quart bottle is generally understood to measure 6 to the gallon, but that there is no law to declare what the true measurement of a reputed pint or quart shall be, and consequently there is no law to reach the bottle in short measure. These bottles are made to hold any measure from 6 to 8 to the gallon, according to the will of the wine merchant, who, if he desires true 6's, has to make special request for such to the manufacturer, who deals in the ordinary course of his business in 6's, 6½'s, 7's, 7½'s, according to inquiry, which would not be the case if such bottles were illegal, and which is not the case with Imperial pints, which being legal, are regular in measure.

These bottles of spurious extraction have sneaked into use under the style and title of the Royal bottle—the true quart—though at best they only contain two-thirds the measure, and cannot be relied on even for that—for a vast quantity of short measures being in use and constant circulation they are day by day exchanged by consumers for the bottles sent by the respectable wine merchant, who must either refuse them, which is often impossible—or not his interest to do so; destroy them, which no one supposes; use them, which he won't; or sell them at a loss to others, who in re-filling them delude the buyer, inflict a wrong on the wine trade generally, give occasion for a vast amount of unnecessary labour, and become a source of tricky opposition to the fair trader, who suffers. These so-styled reputed quarts are neither honest, legal, nor convenient, and even if prepared for any reason whatever, should first be made subject to legal measurement and control, like all other measures; be stripped of their assumed reputed titles, which have brought much dispute on the bottle peacage; and with their illegitimate children, the reputed pints, be dubbed with some characteristic title, such as "sneaks" and "half sneaks," declaring what they actually are.

THE ONE WINE COMPANY (LIMITED): SUPPLY any person in any part of the country with one bottle of Wine at the same price as it is sold on the Continent.

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THE ONE WINE COMPANY (LIMITED): SELL THE CHOICEST WINES OF SPAIN. Per doz. AMONTILLADO, Impl. pts. 36s., reputed qts. 48s. MONTILLA, do. 45s., do. 60s. SOLERA, do. 60s., do. 72s. A single bottle to be obtained at the same price.

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THE ONE WINE COMPANY (LIMITED): CALL attention to the fact that they make no charge for bottles, but that 1s. per dozen is allowed for bottles if returned, thereby reducing the cost of the Wine 1s. per dozen. For further particulars see Price Lists, which will be forwarded on application. A single bottle of any of the above Wines can be obtained as sample. Cheques and Post-office orders to be made payable to THE ONE WINE COMPANY (LIMITED), 115, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

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